BERSERK

23



三浦建太郎 KENTARO MIURA







ベルセルク

BERSERK 23

BY
KENTARO MIURA
三浦建太郎

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DUANE JOHNSON
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US EDITORS
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BERSERK

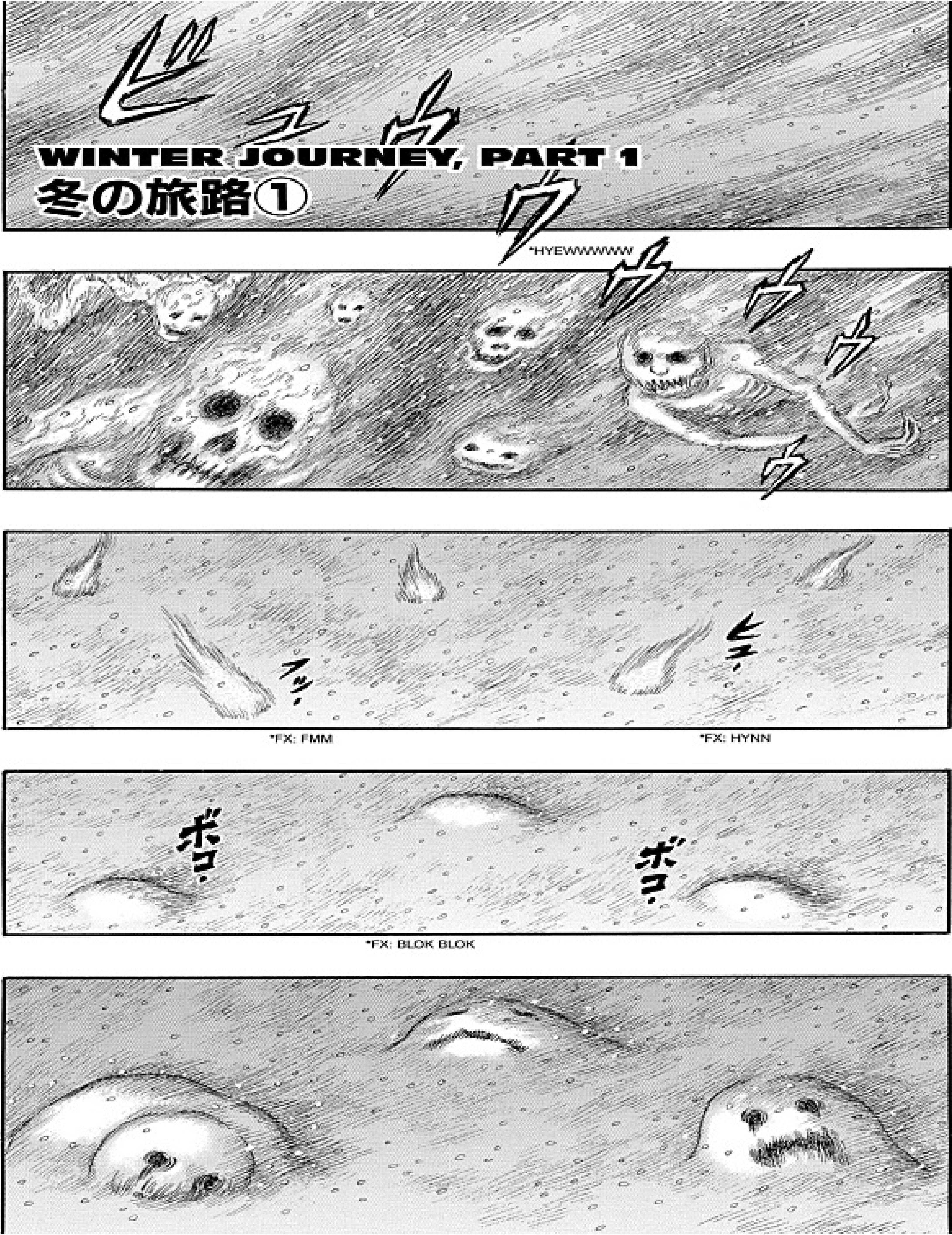
ベルセルク㉓



三浦建太郎

ベルセルク 23

CONTENTS


WINTER JOURNEY, PART 1
冬の旅路①
ビュウウウウウウ
*HYEWWWWW
ヒュ
フッ
*FX: FMM
*FX: HYNN
ボコ
ボコ
*FX: BLOK BLOK






*HOHLLLL
ゴウウウウ
!
*FX: WHIP
THERE'S NO END TO 'EM! NOT LIKE THAT'S NEW!
AGYA!
CASCA?!
*FX: PLOP
*FX: MOGHHH
*FX: MOOOO


*CHOFF!
SWEET !
!
*FX: ZHF ZHF ZHF ZHF


...
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT...?
*HAHH
*HAHH
*CHF
*FX: SSSSS
IT'S COLD, HUH? I'M JUST DANDY, THOUGH.
*WHUW
*FLAP
*BLASH BLASH


SHE ATE YOUR SHARE TOO, GUTS!
CUT THAT OUT!
AH!
*FX: OMP OMP
BUT IF YOU DON'T EAT, YOU CAN'T KEEP UP YOUR STRENGTH.
FINE.
YOU'RE SWINGIN' YOUR SWORD AROUND FROM DUSK 'TIL DAWN EVEN ON GOOD DAYS.
*FX: MNCH MNCH
AND LATELY THERE'VE BEEN SWARMS A' EVIL SPIRITS AND INCUBI.
IT'S ACTUALLY HARDER THAN I THOUGHT IT'D BE...
...CONSTANTLY WIELDING MY SWORD WHILE WATCHING OVER SOMEONE.



HERE.
YOU'LL BE COLD WITH THIS OPEN.
BUT...
...WHAT'S EVEN HARDER THAN THAT...
*WIPE


...IS HOW THIS SHADOW OF WHO YOU USED TO BE KEEPS REMINDING ME...
...OF ALL THOSE DAYS AND HOW THEY WERE SHATTERED.


NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE GUTS THIS HEROIC...
QUITE SHOCKIN'.
PUCK.
WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS YOUR HOMELAND?
WELL, Y'SEE ...
...IT'S A GREAT PLACE.
BUT I WONDER IF HE'S...
...SPREADING HIMSELF TOO THIN?
ELFHELM.
A UTOPIA FLOATIN' IN THE SEA FAR TO THE WEST.
EVERYWHERE FLOWERS BLOOMIN', BIRDS SINGIN', ELVES DANCIN'...
AN ELFIN PARADISE OF ETERNAL SPRING, OPEN YEAR ROUND.
OH! MY BEAUTIFUL HOMELAND!
......
THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT I MEANT.
IF IT'S SO DREAMY, WHY'D YOU EVER LEAVE?
I GOT BORED.


WHO KNEW...
...I'D EVER BE RELYING ON HIM?
?
RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO CLING TO ANY HOPE, HOWEVER SMALL.
*FX: FWUMP
YOU SHOULD SLEEP A LITTLE TOO, GUTS, BEFORE NIGHT FALLS.
DON'T WORRY, I'LL PIPE UP IF ANYTHING HAPPENS.
*FX: POK
THANKS, I THINK I WILL.
I'M COUNTIN' ON YOU.
ROGER!
*FWIT


DO YOU SLEEP?
DO YOU DREAM?
*HAH
*HAH
DREAMS OF HIM?
WHY IS IT?
WHY DON'T YOU CHASE HIM?
YOU FINALLY MET WITH HIM.
JUST A LITTLE FARTHER.
LET'S GO TO HIM.
LET'S GIVE HIM...
...A HEAP OF RAW IRON.
BECAUSE OF THIS WOMAN HERE?
LEAVE HER BE.
IS SHE THAT PRECIOUS?



*HAH HAH
MORE SO THAN GRIFFITH?
SHE'S NO LONGER THE WARRIOR YOU KNEW.
JUST A HUSK.
SOMEONE ELSE.
AND YET SHE'S PRECIOUS?
YOU CAN CONTINUE THINKING OF HER?
OF THIS WOMAN, EVEN NOW?
OF HER ALONE?
IS SHE NOT PRECIOUS ONLY BECAUSE SHE'S...
...THE WOUND GRIFFITH LEFT. BECAUSE YOU WANT TO KEEP FEELING THAT PAIN HE CAUSED YOU?

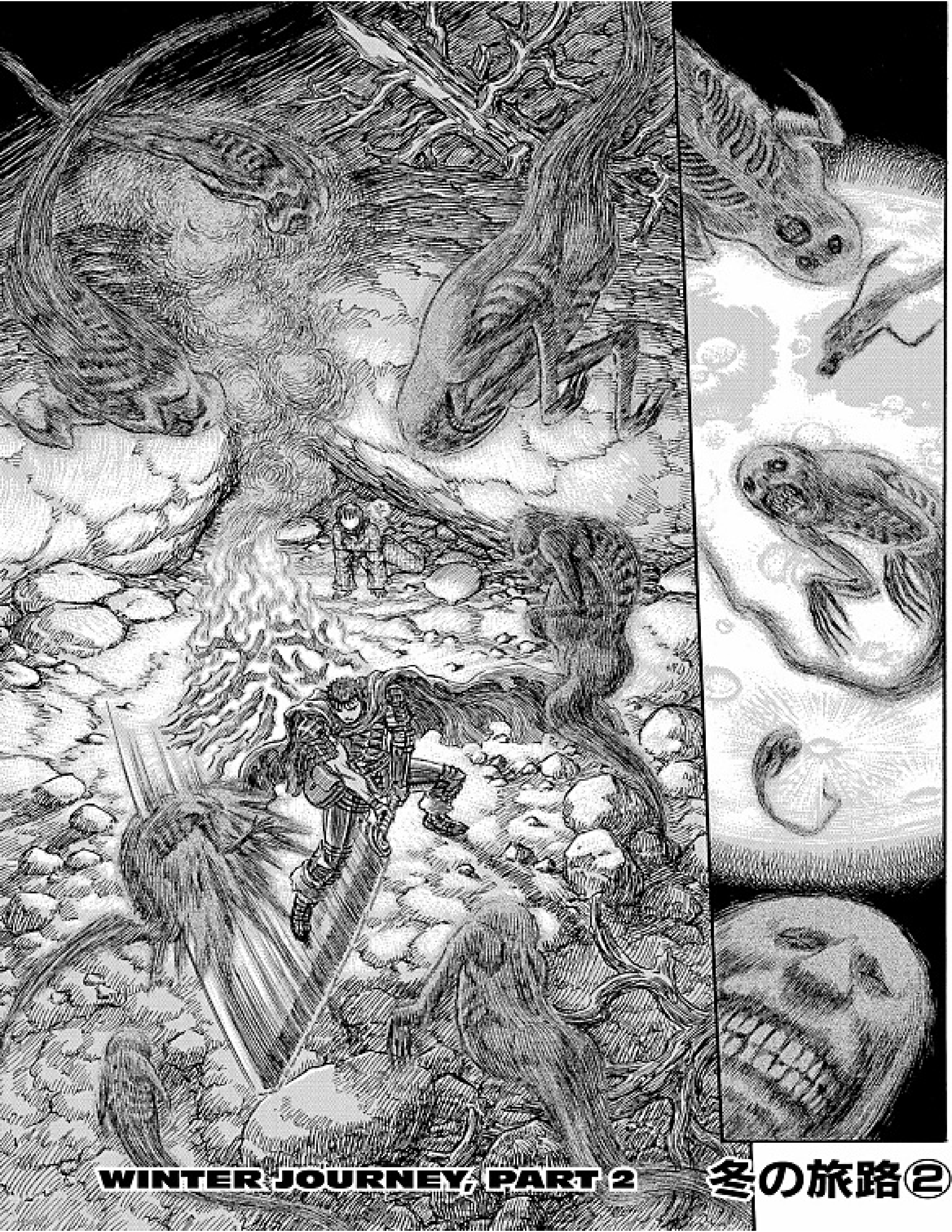

SHE'S A SACRIFICE SO YOU CAN CONTINUE LONGING FOR GRIFFITH.
GO AWAY...
IF SHE'S A SACRIFICE, THERE'S A BETTER USE FOR HER.


IF YOU JUST DO THIS...
...YOU'LL GET CLOSER AND CLOSER TO GRIFFITH.
STOP IIIT!
YOU...
...DESIRE THIS.


*DOSH
*FX: FLING
*FX: SSSSSS
*FX: OOO...
*SLRRR
*THNK
*THNK
*FX: BLORP TWITCH TWITCH


*HAHHH
*HAHHH
WHEN DID THE CLOUDS ROLL IN?
*FX: TWITCH TWITCH
....
IT WAS DUMB TO TRUST HIM.
*FX: VNN VNN
*FX: TOUCH
*FX: HHHHH


AS IF THAT...
...COULD EVER BE.
AS IF...
WINTER JOURNEY (1): END



WINTER JOURNEY, PART 2 冬の旅路②


*BISSH
*SHAP
KICK SOME BUTT!
DAWN'S AROUND THE CORNER!
Y'KNOW, GUTS' BEEN A LITTLE ODD LATELY. LIKE HE'S MORE SERIOUS, KINDA...


YOU DESIRE THIS.
THAT'S CRAZY!!
!
AUU!
トトト..
*FX: TP TP TP
*FX: CHRR
GOIN' OUT THERE'S DANGEROUS ...!!
C'MON, CASCA!!



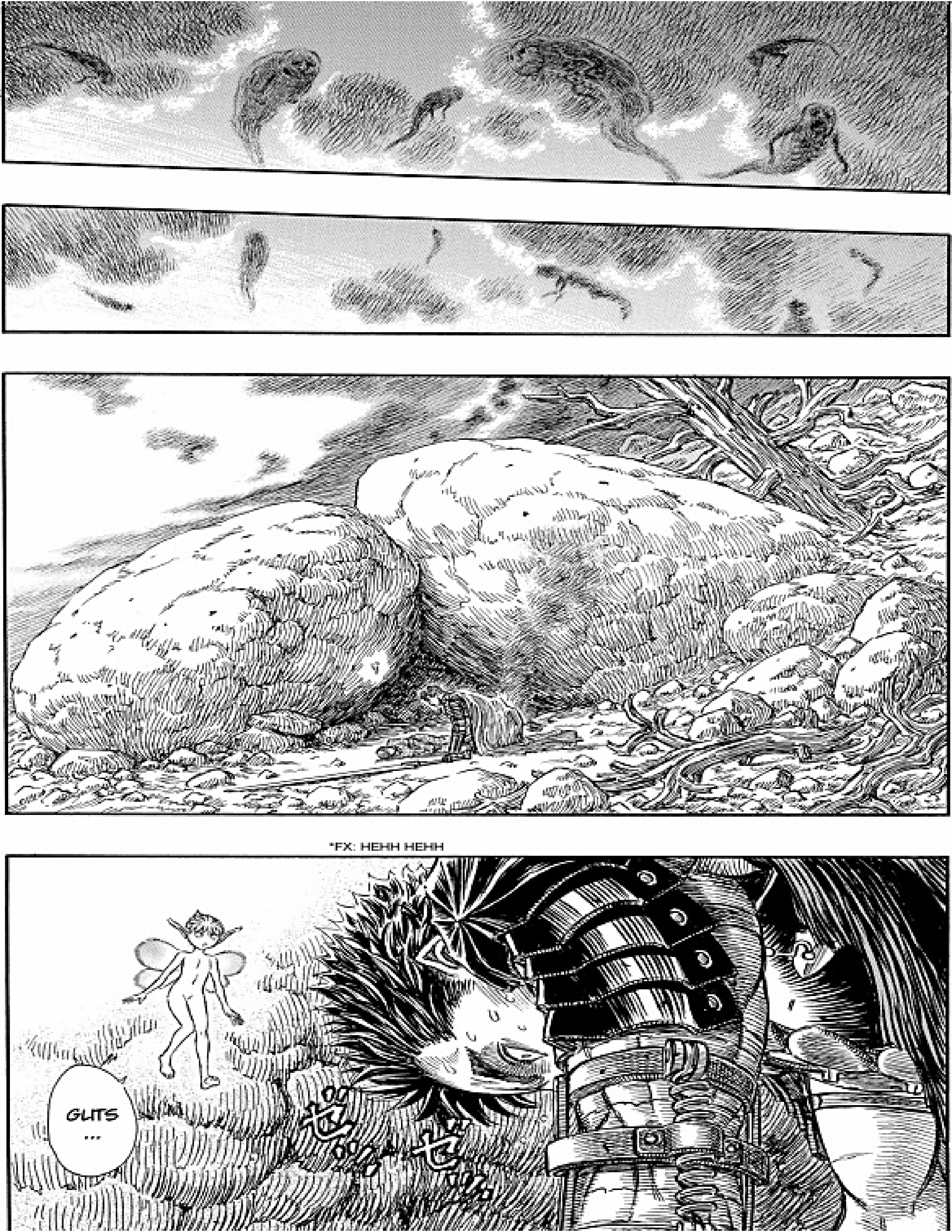
GWAHH!
*OHHHH
*ZHHOP
GUTS ...!!
*FX: CHAK CHAK
GH...
GAH!


*GRAB
*FX: ROHHHH


*SQUEEZE
.....!
GUTS!!



...O...
...P...
*FX: CLENCH
STOP IIIIT !!!!...
*BAOOOOH


*FX: HEHH HEHH
GUTS
...


HEY ...!!
CASCA !!
OO...
ゴホ
*FX: KOFF
?
OH, GOOD...
*FX: WHEW


AHHHH!!
CASCA ...
...!!



*BOLT
*FX: BITE
AGEE!
HEY...!
CASCA...!!
UWAHH!!
......!!


*FX: HAHH HAHH
OOOO
......
WHATTA WE DO?
AT THIS RATE SHE'LL JUST GET FARTHER AND FARTHER AWAY.

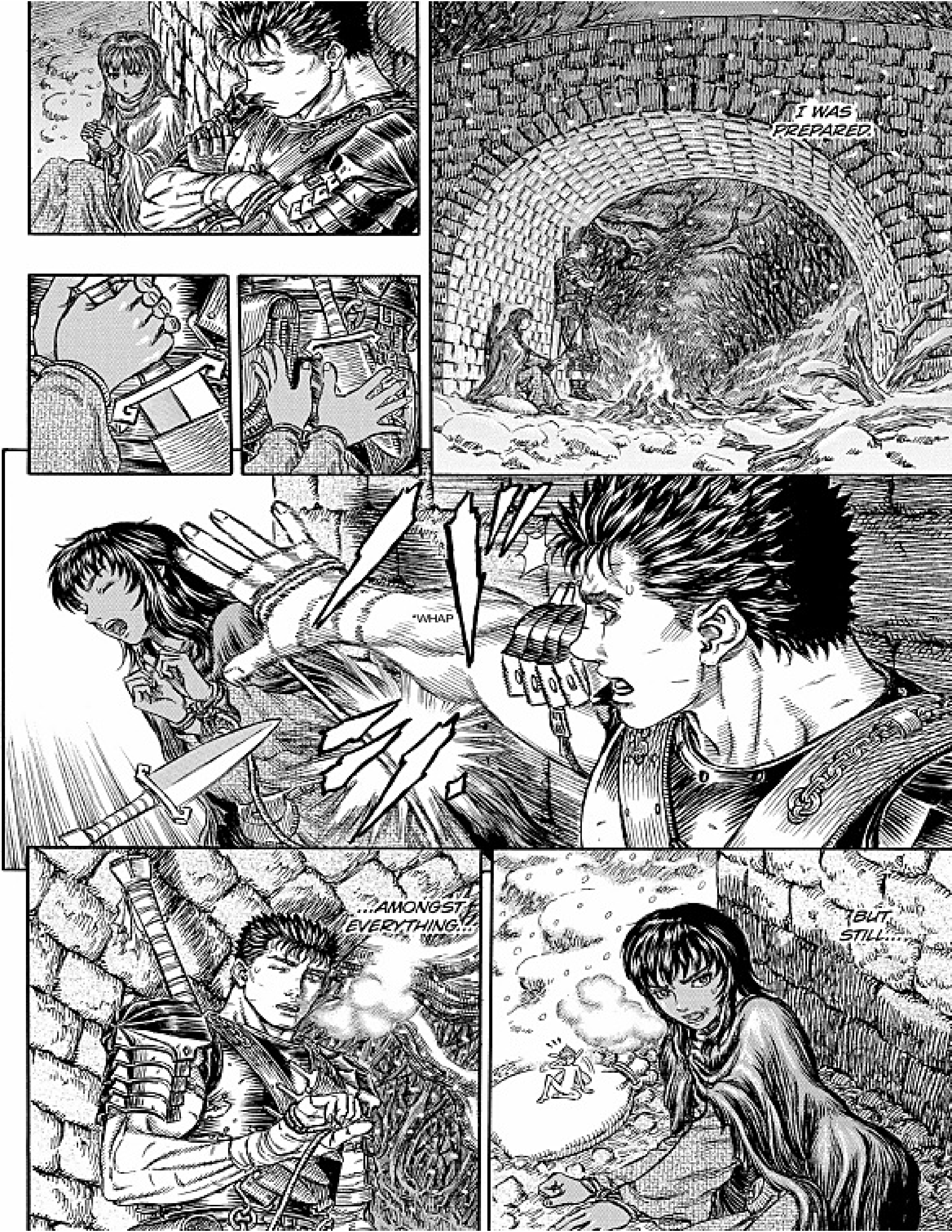

HERE SHE'S STUCK SO CLOSE TO YOU, SENSIN' YOU'VE BEEN PROTECTIN' HER SINCE THE TOWER OF CONVICTION ...
...AND *NOW* IT'S ALL RUINED.
OH. SORRY.
DON'TCHA WORRY OVER IT!
THAT WAS SOMETHIN' THE EVIL SPIRITS COMPELLED YOU TO DO!
DESIRE THIS.
CAN I...
...REALLY TELL MYSELF THAT?
THAT IT... WASN'T ME?


THIS'S BAD, THOUGH.
IF IT'S LIKE THIS AT SUNSET...
......
OO AU U!
*FX: TUG
GEEE!
NOW COME ON.
WHOA, HOLD ON!
YOU'RE TAKIN' THIS *TOO* FAR!
EVEN CONSID-ERIN'...
*FX: HNNG
IT'S *PITIFUL!*
THIS'S NO BETTER 'N THAT WITCH HUNT!


RIGHT NOW, PROTECTING HER AND MOVING QUICKLY ARE MOST IMPORTANT.
NOTHING ELSE MATTERS.
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT...
WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?
*FX: AUU
...BUT SHE'LL HATE YOU...
...EVEN MORE.
......
I WAS PREPARED.


I KNEW A JOURNEY WOULDN'T BE EASY...
...WITH THE TWO OF US BRANDED.
IT'S NOT JUST THE RIGORS OF TRAVEL.
IT GOES FAR BEYOND A PERSONAL WAR...
...FIGHTING TO PROTECT SOMEONE...


AND IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT COMPLETELY PROTECTING CASCA...
...BECAUSE MY DEATH WILL RESULT IN HER DEATH.
I'M USED TO FIGHTING TO SURVIVE.
BUT WHAT GROWS WORSE DAILY...
...IS THE PRESSURE NOT TO DIE.
HAVE I EVER BEFORE...
...WIELDED A SWORD SO HEAVY?



I WAS PREPARED.
*WHAP
...AMONGST EVERYTHING...
BUT STILL...

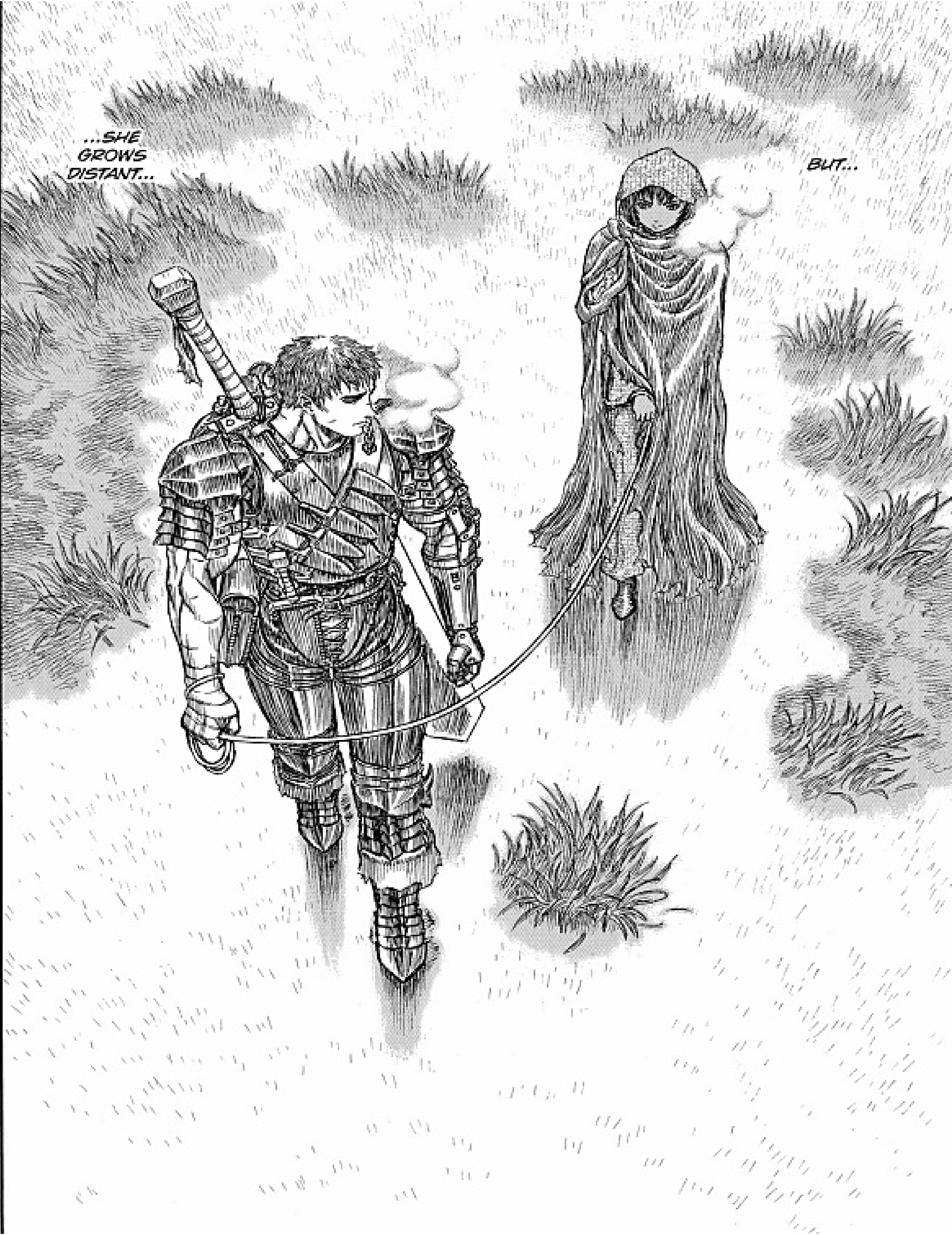

...PERHAPS I WAS HOLDING ONTO SOME INDULGENT... HOPE...
IF ONLY WE COULD CONNECT SOMEHOW.
SO FAR AWAY...

SCATTERED TIME

こぼれた時間（とき）

BERSERK


WHEN WAS THAT...?
THE LAST TIME SHE SMILED?
FATIGUE IS...
...RUINING ME.
I CAN BARELY PROTECT HER...
...AS SHE LOOKS AT ME WITH DISTRUST AND ANIMOSITY...
...AND MY LICENSE TO TOUCH HER WITH TENDERNESS EXPIRES.
MY DISTRUST OF MYSELF...
...SPURS ME ON.
I SWORE I'D STAY NEAR HER.
NOT ABANDON HER.


...SHE GROWS DISTANT...
BUT...


WE GOT TROUBLE, GUTS!!
OH, NO...!!
WAKE UP!!
IF WE DON'T HURRY THE SUN'LL SET! LET'S SPLIT UP THE SEARCH!
I ONLY DOZED OFF FOR A BIT...


NOT A BIT OF FOOD LEFT. TALK ABOUT BAD BUSINESS.
AH, HELL, EVERY VILLAGE 'N' TOWN AROUND HERE'S EMPTY.
CASCA...!!


HEY, DON'TCHA THINK IT'S HIGH TIME FOR US, TOO? NOT BEIN' CHASED BY OFFICIALS IS GREAT, BUT IF WE COME ACROSS THE KUSHAN, WE'S FINISHED.
GOT THAT RIGHT.
I DON'T ASK MUCH. LET'S JUST GO SOMEPLACE WHERE THERE'S FOOD 'N' WOMEN.
*FX: MNCH MNCH
*FX: ZHA
HEY, WHO'S THERE ?!
*FX: FRMP FRMP
*MNCH

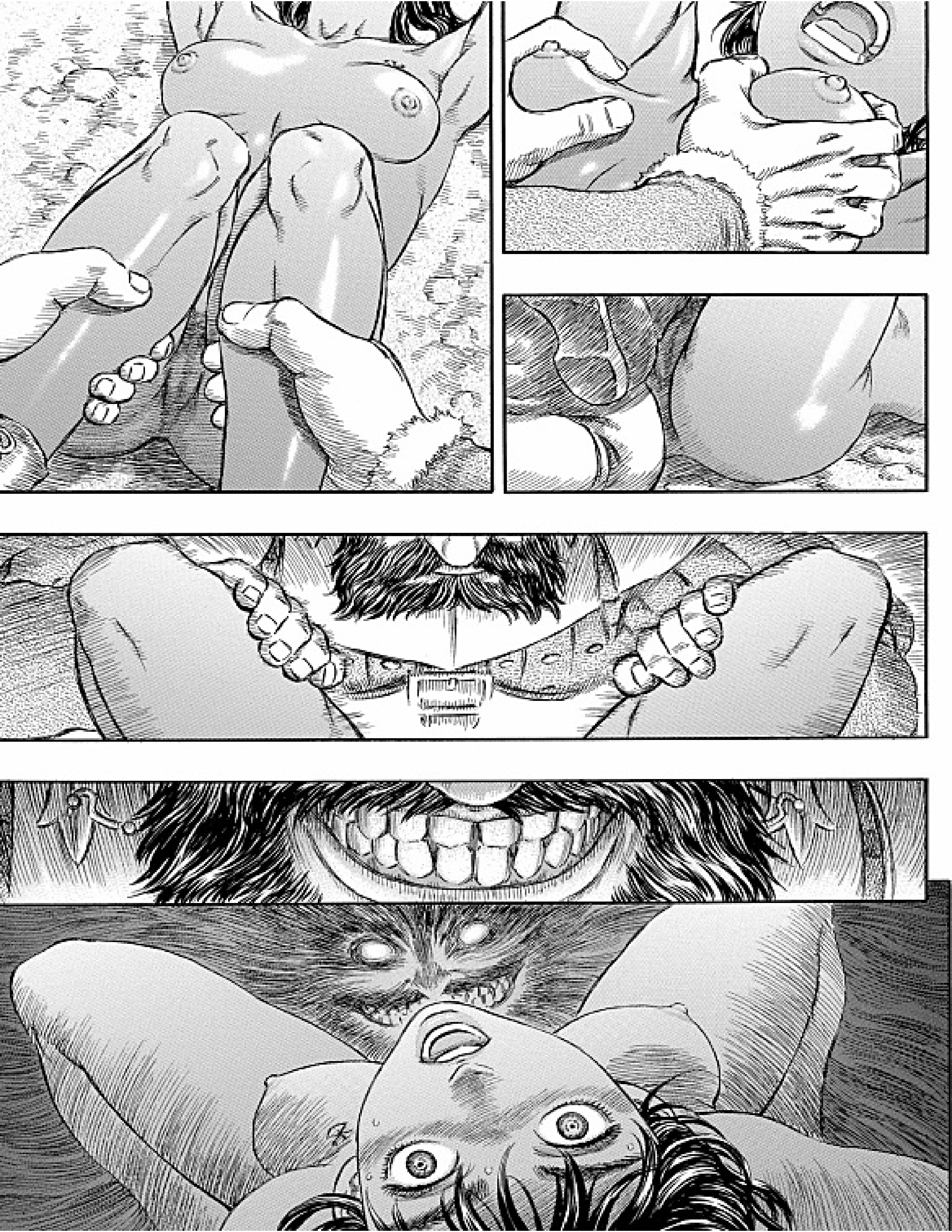

A W-WOMAN?!
WHAT IN THE...
AHH! MUH DRIED MEAT...!
SHE AIN'T BAD, THIS BROAD.
*FX: MNCH MNCH
MEAT...
YOU GONNA RAPE A PILGRIM? THAT'S A SIN.
*FX: SWP
I WUZ SAVIN' THAT FER LAST...!
PILGRIM CLOTHES? WHY'S A PILGRIM AROUND HERE?
NO, BOSS.
SHE'S A BLESSIN' FROM GOD FOR US WRETCHED THIEVES.
HEHEH...
WELL...
...WORKS FOR ME.

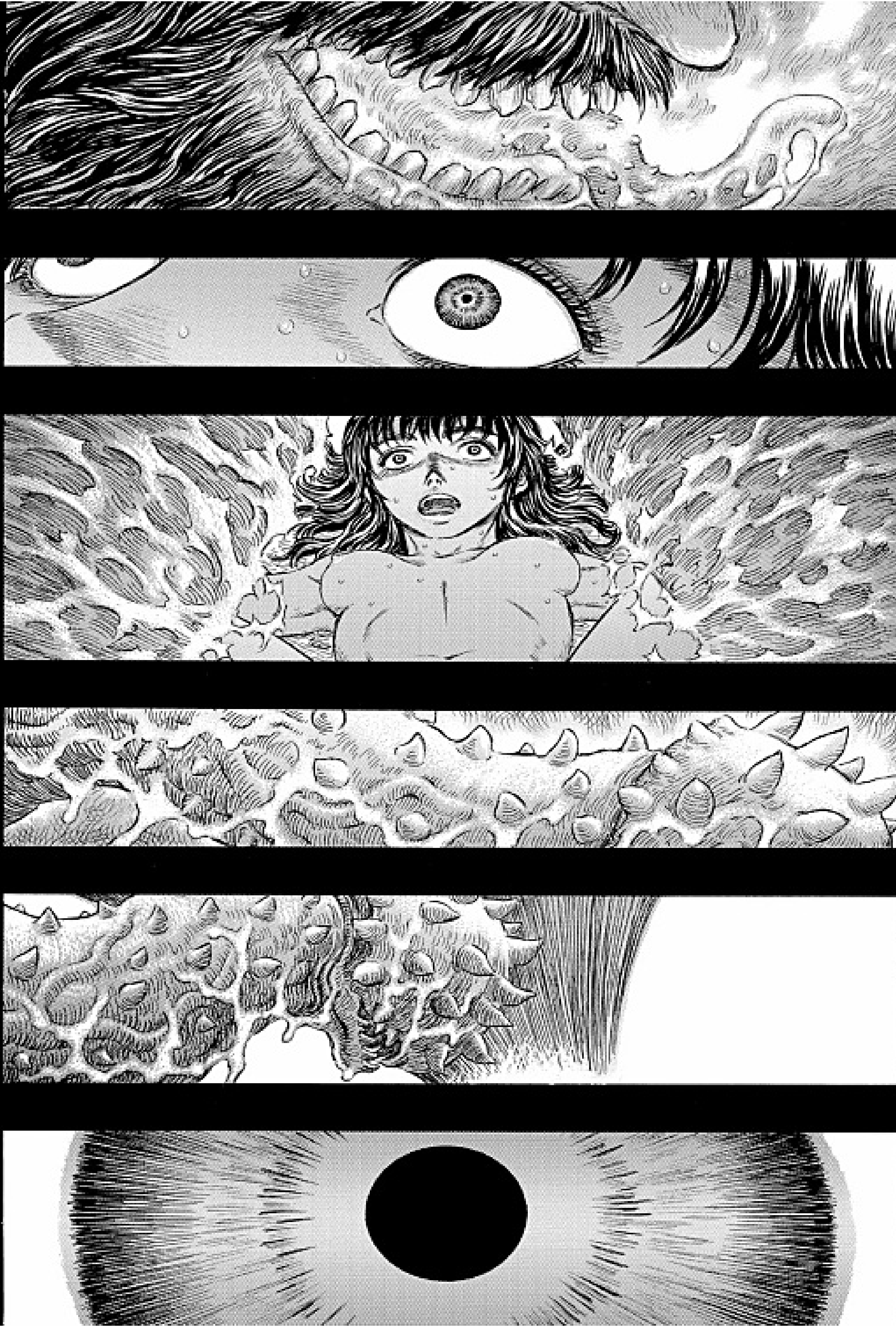

I'LL HAVE TO THANK GOD FOR THIS!
OOAU!
*FX: BLASH
CASCA !!


I WAS NAIVE.
WHEN I HEADED FOR THE TOWER OF CONVICTION...
...I JUST HOPED SHE WAS STILL ALIVE...
...ALIVE AND SAFE, THAT WAS ALL.
WHEN I GOT HER BACK...
...I THOUGHT THAT WAS EVERYTHING.
I WAS TOO NAIVE.


ALL THE TIME I SPENT WANDERING.
ALL THE TIME I LEFT HER THERE ALONE.
I'VE BECOME ESTRANGED FROM HER.
THERE'S NO WAY TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THE TIME I LEFT HER IN DARKNESS.
EVEN DOING THAT...
...THERE WAS NO WAY...
...TO WIPE AWAY THE YEARS I LEFT HER BEHIND.



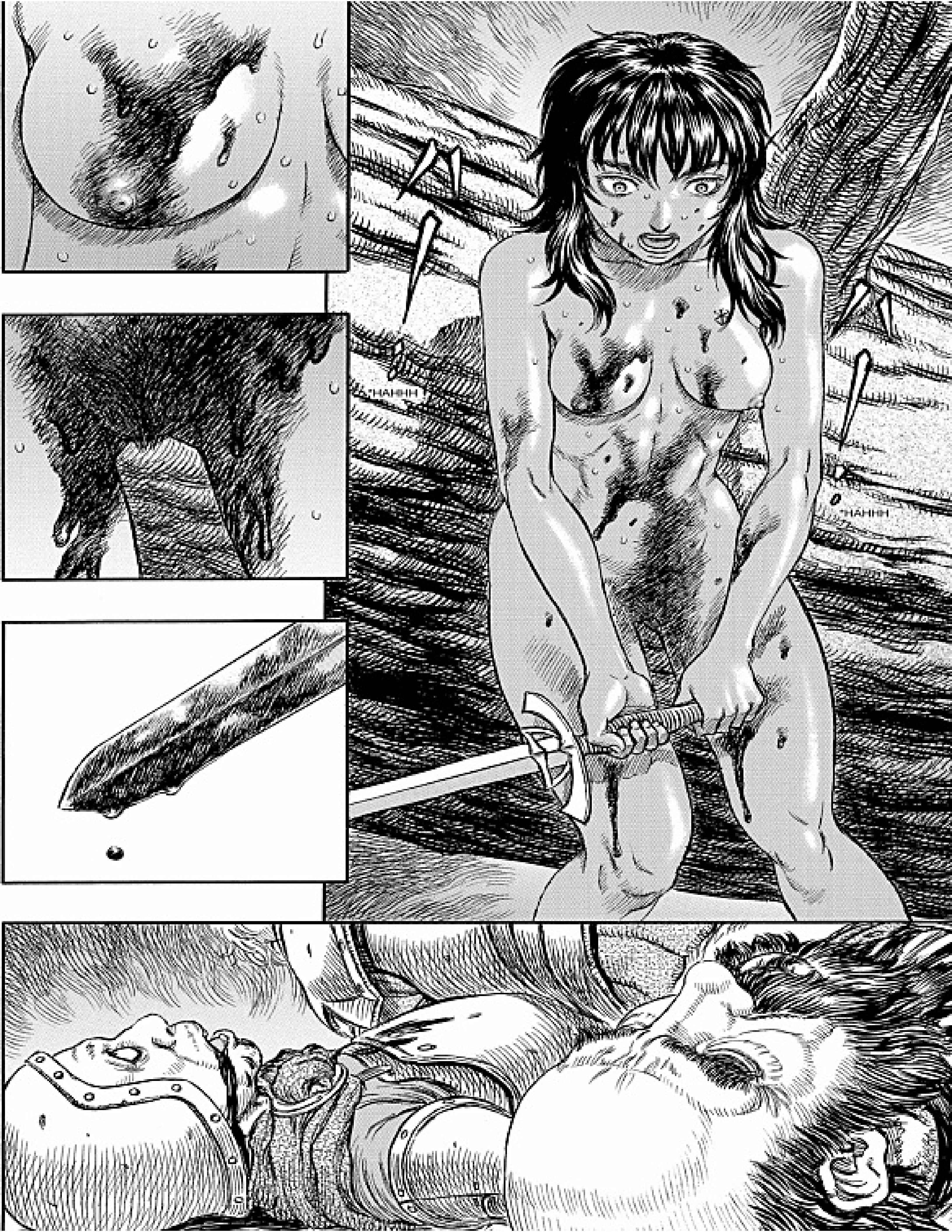







AAAA!!!
CASCA !!
*ZHA ZHA ZHA ZHA ZHA




*HAHHH
*HAHHH


……
……
!!
*FLINCH
ビク
*FX: JHAK
*FX: HYEWN
CAS...
*HHH
*HHH


*FX: GRAU!
...!!
AGYAAU!!
NO WAY...
OOGEE...
!
QUI--!


*ZHA


ドクンッ
*FX: BTHUMP
*FX: BTHUMP
ドクンッ

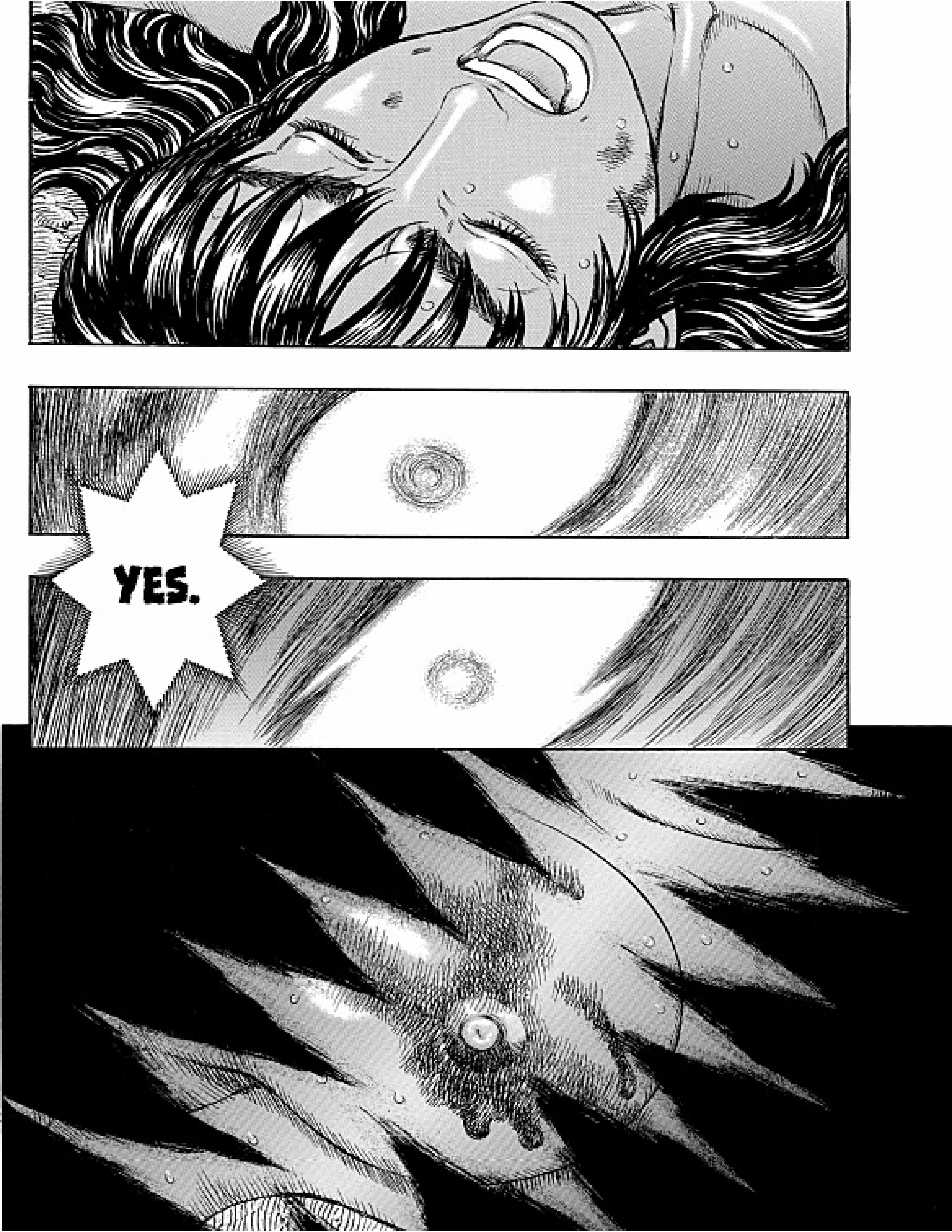

NN...


NNNNN...

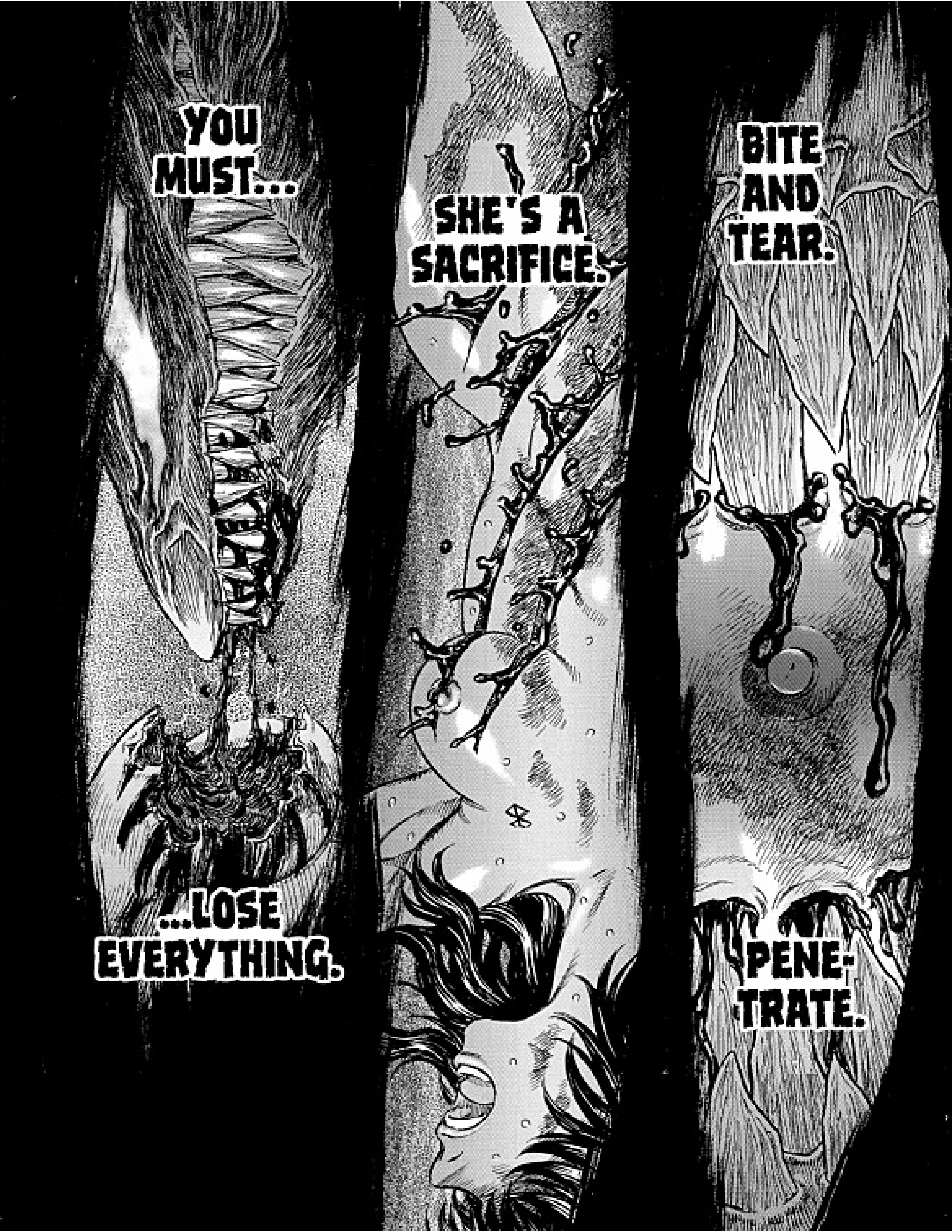

FANGS OF EGO
我牙


NNN...
NNN...
ガチ
*CLAT
ガチ
*CLAT
GHEE...
*KICK KICK
バタバタ
OOOOOO...
*FX: GSHANG
ガシャ


*WHACK
UAH...
*TWITCH


YES.


RIP HER TO SHREDS.
THE WAY GRIFFITH DID.


YOU MUST...
...LOSE EVERYTHING.
SHE'S A SACRIFICE.
BITE AND TEAR.
PENE-TRATE.


MAKE EVERYTHING...
...FOOD FOR YOUR MALICE.


ニチャ…
*FX: CHOMP
*AGHHHH!
うわあああ
*GSHANG



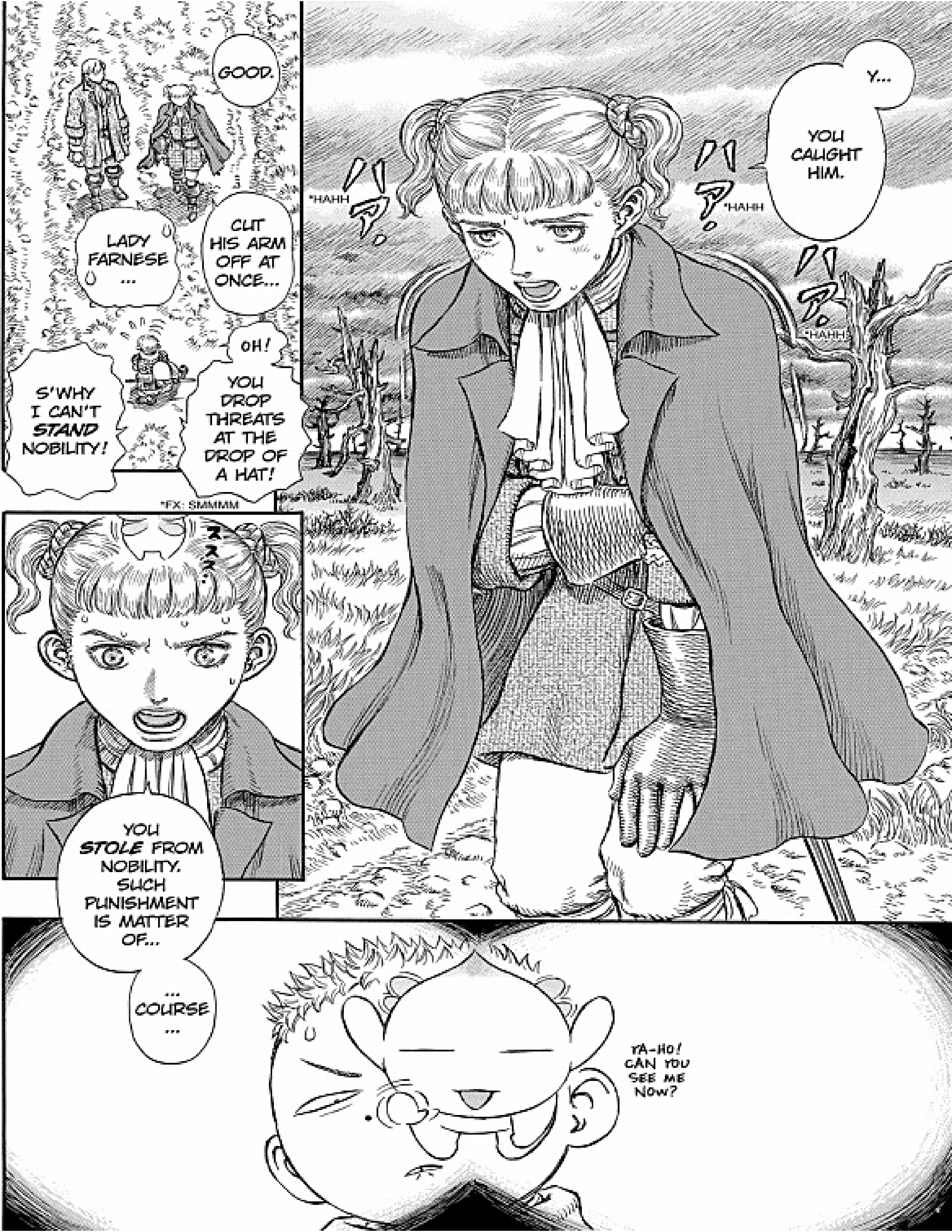
ヒュー
*HHHH
ヒュー
*HHHH
I...
ザ
ZHA

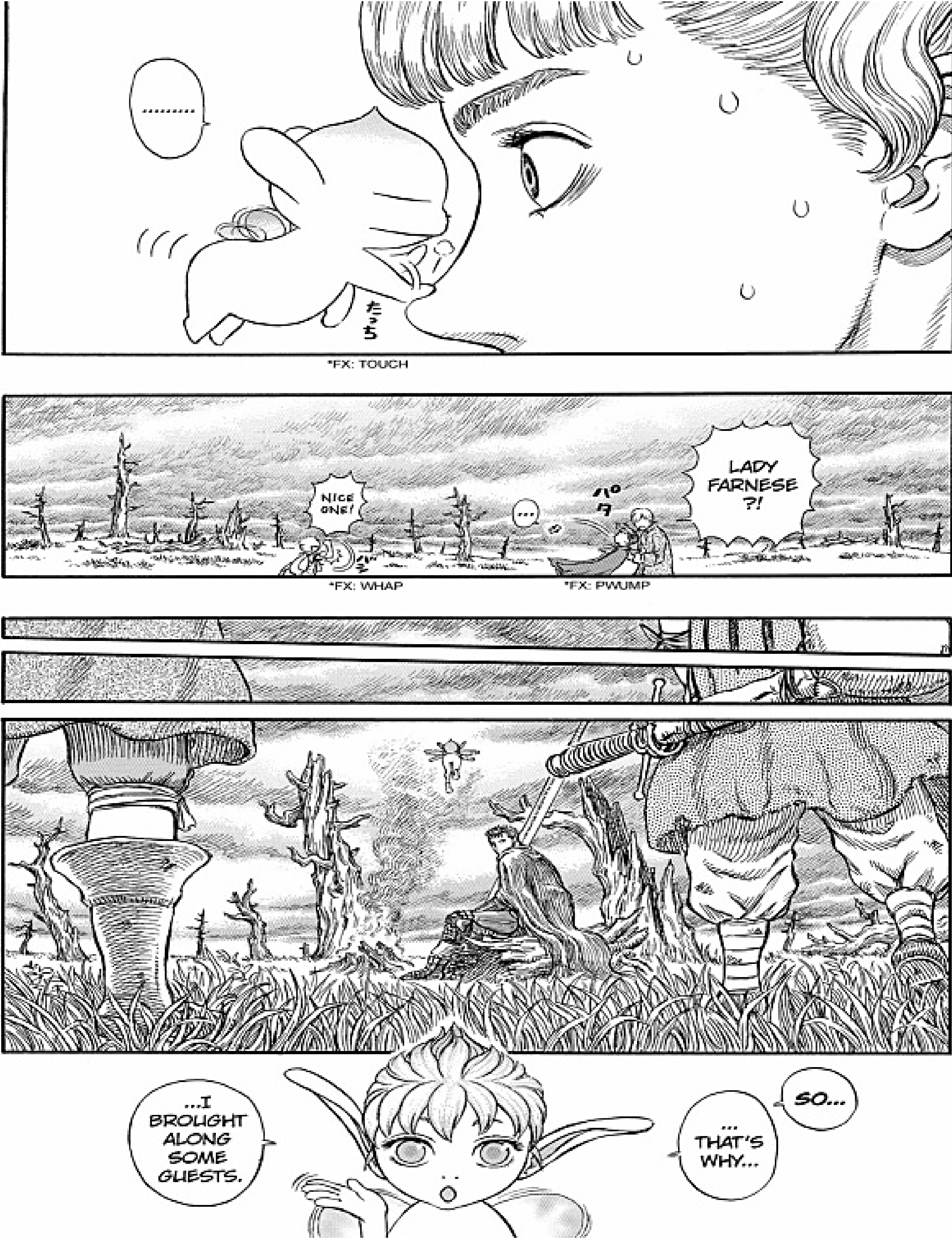

HEYYY!
CASCA, HEYYY!
*FX: DMP DMP DMP
で゛ で゛ で゛..
IF WE DON'T FIND HER SOON THE SUN'LL S--
HMM ?
OHH!
LOOKY!

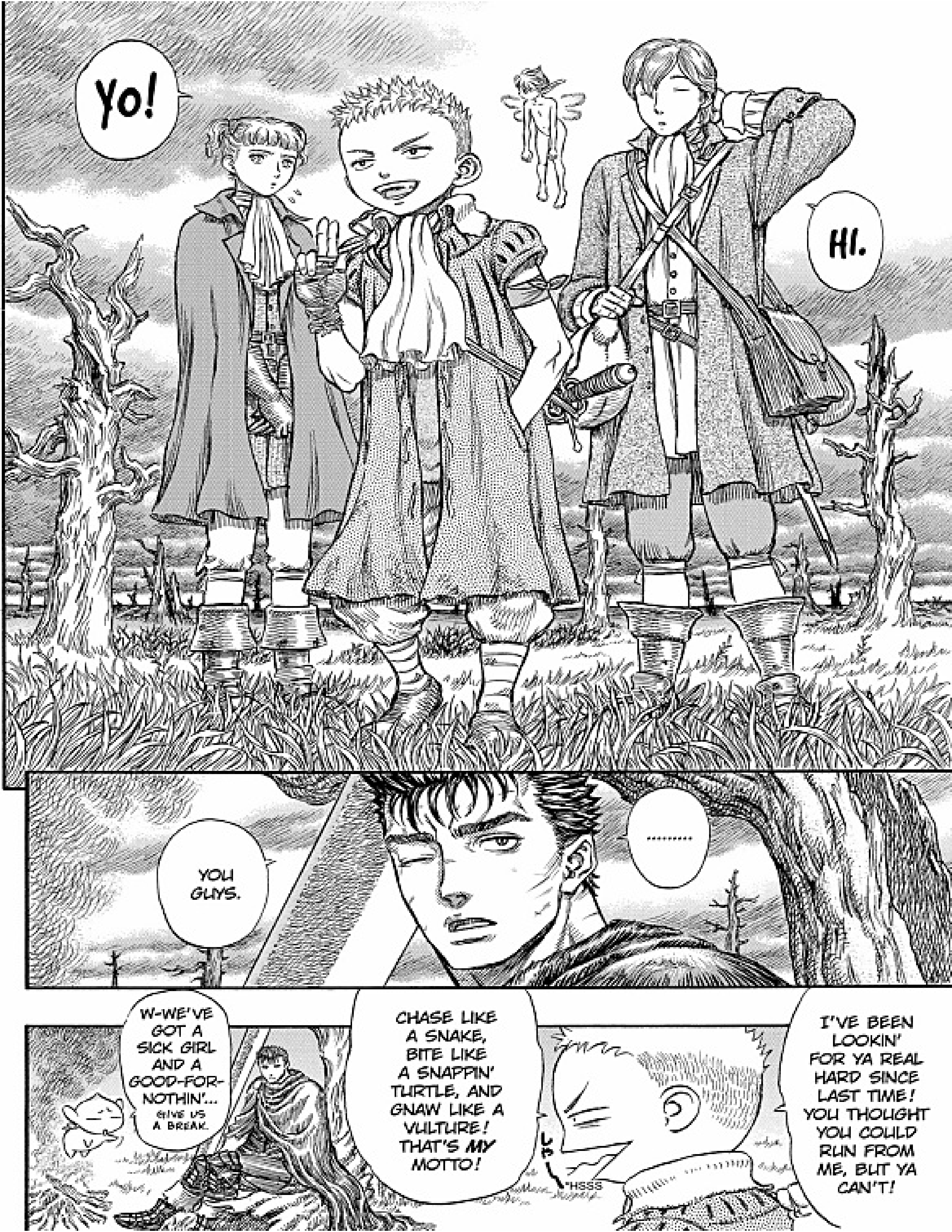

*DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP
HEY, DROPEY!
IF IT AIN'T DROPEY!
AHH, PUCK!!
AH... AH FOND YUUU!!
*FX: DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP
SOOO, BEEN A WHILE. YOU SURVIVED?
HOURSE I HID! 'EN 'OOKIN' FER OUU! NE'ER 'OUGHT YOU'D 'E 'ERE!

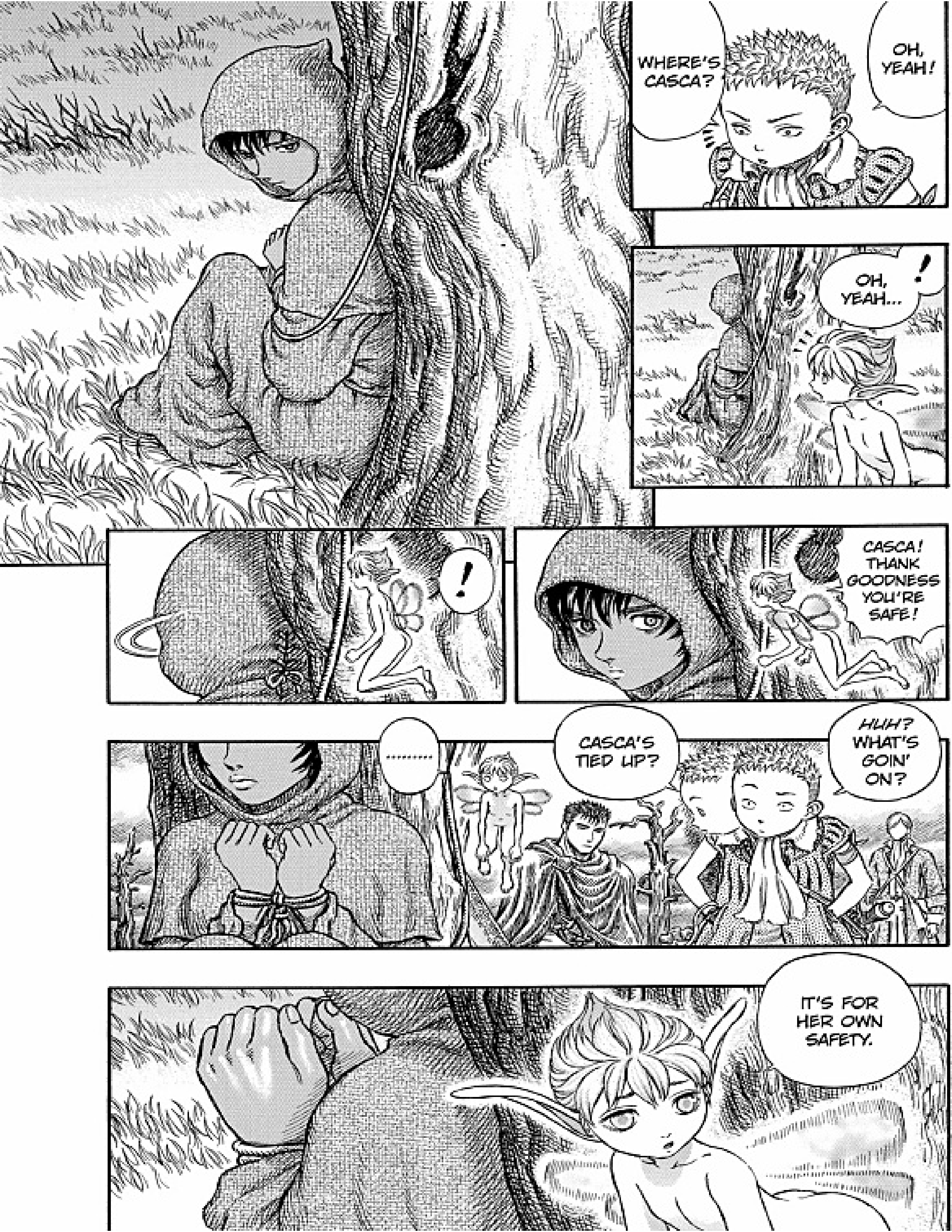

HA'D HOLLOW 'IM, HAHEE, 'OO 'E, HEEHEE, E' O' D'EARTH, FUHEE, FER 'AT 'EE OWES MUH, HOHEEHEE.
EATIN', TALKIN', OR RUNNIN'. GOTTA PICK ONE.
*FX: DMP DMP DMP DMP
AIN'T THE SCOUNDREL BEIN' CHASED?
HNGULP. HUHUH! NOT GONNA HAPPEN! I'M BEIN' CHASED BY SCOUNDRELS RIGHT NOW!
LAME-BRAIN!
ALL I DID WAS CARRY STUFF OUT OF KINDNESS FOR SOME PEOPLE I KNOW!
BUT WHEN IT COMES TO SKINFLINTS LIKE THEM...
*FX: DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP
*FX: DMP DMP DMP DMP DMP
*FX: HYN
*FX: HYN
*FX: WHUMP
D'OH!
*FX: CATCH
!


*HAHH
*HAHH
SO THERE ARE PEOPLE WHOSE CHARGE...
...FOR CARRYING LUGGAGE IS THE LUGGAGE.
*FX: HEHH HEHH
DUMBASS! I JUST THOUGHT I'D DO YOU A FAVOR AND TEACH SOME DUMB ARISTOCRATS HOW HARSH THE WORLD CAN BE...
OH?
OHO!
*FX: HAHH HAHH


Y...
YOU CAUGHT HIM.
*HAHH
*HAHH
*HAHH
GOOD.
CUT HIS ARM OFF AT ONCE...
LADY FARNESE ...
OH!
YOU DROP THREATS AT THE DROP OF A HAT!
S'WHY I CAN'T STAND NOBILITY!
*FX: SMMMM
YOU STOLE FROM NOBILITY. SUCH PUNISHMENT IS MATTER OF...
... COURSE ...
YA-HO! CAN YOU SEE ME NOW?


....
*FX: TOUCH
LADY FARNESE ?!
...
NICE ONE!
*FX: WHAP
*FX: PWUMP
SO...
...THAT'S WHY...
...I BROUGHT ALONG SOME GUESTS.


HI.
YO!
....
YOU GUYS.
I'VE BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YA REAL HARD SINCE LAST TIME! YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD RUN FROM ME, BUT YA CAN'T!
CHASE LIKE A SNAKE, BITE LIKE A SNAPPIN' TURTLE, AND GNAW LIKE A VULTURE! THAT'S MY MOTTO!
*HSSS
W-WE'VE GOT A SICK GIRL AND A GOOD-FOR-NOTHIN'... GIVE US A BREAK.


WHERE'S CASCA?
OH, YEAH!
OH, YEAH...
!
!
CASCA! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE!
HUH? WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
CASCA'S TIED UP?
....
IT'S FOR HER OWN SAFETY.

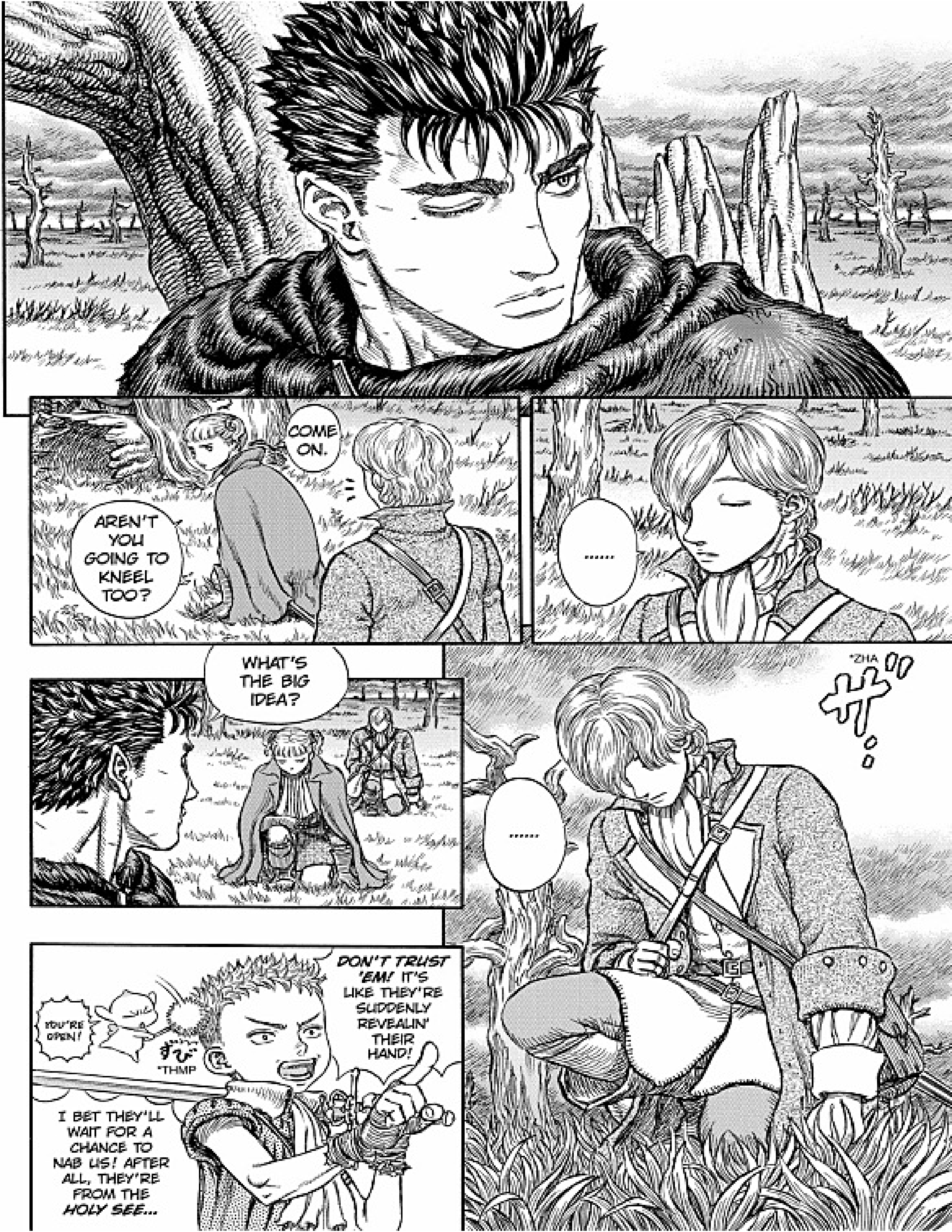


A LOT'S HAP-PENED...
HUHHN ...
WELL ...
...I DON'T KNOW WHY...
......
*REACH
...BUT THAT ASIDE...
*FX: JAK
*FX: SPIN
...!!!!!!IT'S DEAL TIME!! NOW YOU GET TO PAY ME BACK!!
YOU'RE GONNA TEACH ME! THE SECRETS OF YOUR SWORD FIGHTIN' AND THE SECRET SECRETS! LEAVIN' NOTHIN' OUT!! AND SOON! LIKE NOW!
*FX: HAHAH
*FX: CHING
SO WHAT ABOUT YOU TWO?
THEN I FORMALLY RECOGNIZE YOU AS A DISCIPLE OF ELF DIMENSION STYLE.


THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE A CRIMINAL!
FEROCIOUS THIEF! FIRST LESSON, THE THOUSAND-SPIKE STRIKE!
ビス *BIS
YEAH, YEAH, WATCH OUT! THEY WERE ABOUT TO HACK MY ARM OFF EARLIER!
YOU STILL TRYING TO CATCH ME?
LADY FARNESE?


BLACK SWORDS-MAN.
ザッ
*FX: ZHA
!
PLEASE ALLOW US TO...
...ACCOMPANY YOU IN YOUR TRAVELS.
FANGS OF EGO: END


PLEASE ALLOW US TO ACCOMPANY YOU IN YOUR TRAVELS.
荒れ野の再会
WILDERNESS REUNION



COME ON.
AREN'T YOU GOING TO KNEEL TOO?
......
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
......
*ZHA
DON'T TRUST 'EM! IT'S LIKE THEY'RE SUDDENLY REVEALIN' THEIR HAND!
YOU'RE OPEN!
*THMP
I BET THEY'LL WAIT FOR A CHANCE TO NAB US! AFTER ALL, THEY'RE FROM THE HOLY SEE...



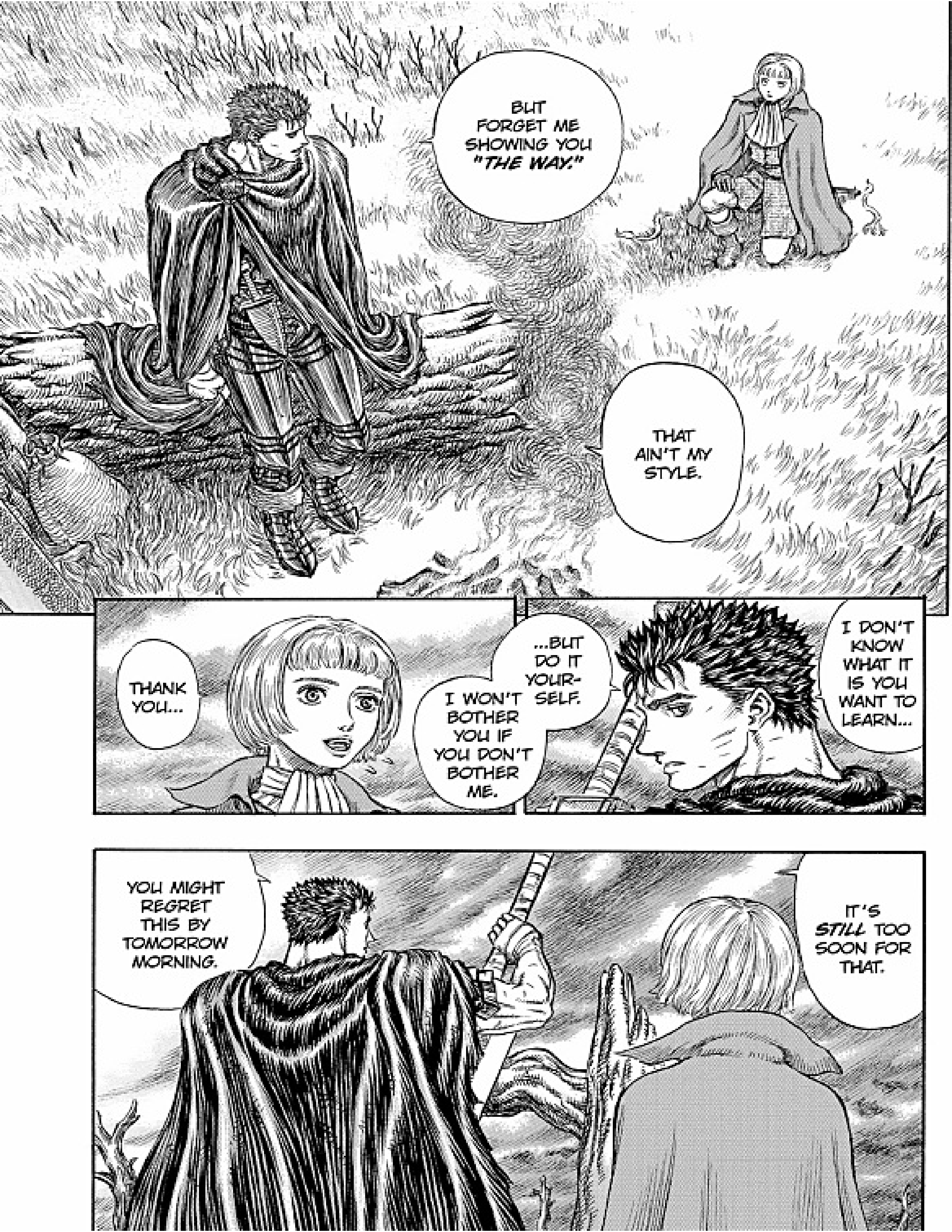
I WANT TO KNOW...
...WHAT TRANSCENDS THE ORDER I CLING TO.
THE TRUTH.
I HAVE ALREADY SECULARIZED MYSELF AND ABANDONED THE CHURCH.
LIKE WE TRUST YOU! OR ANYTHING NOBLES SAY!
OR THIEVES.
AND I WANT TO LEARN...
FROM YOU...
...A WAY TO SURVIVE IN THE DARKNESS...
...WHERE THE LIGHT OF THAT ORDER DOES NOT REACH.
PLEASE SHOW ME THE WAY.

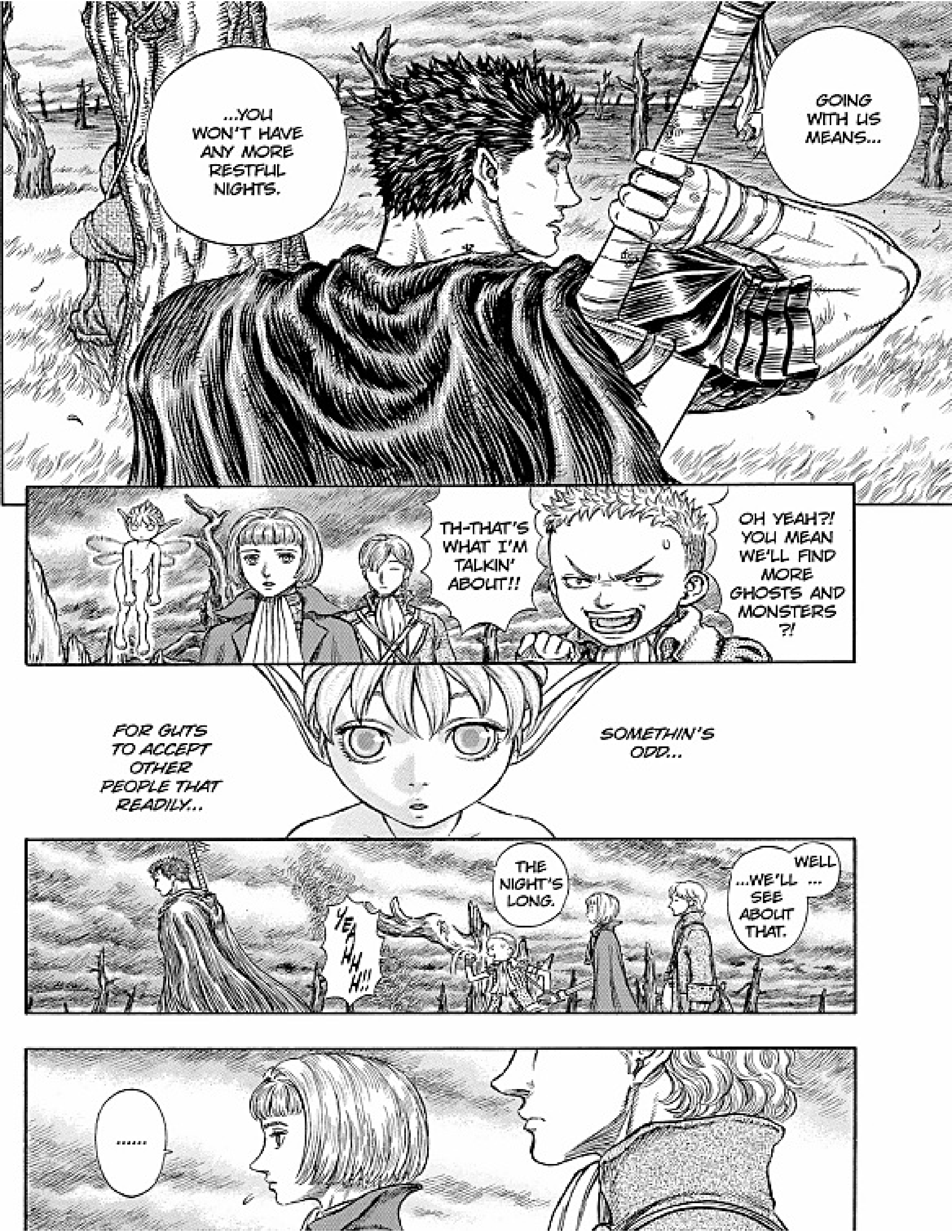


EVEN IF YOU CONFUSE US BY SAYIN' COMPLICATED STUFF, IT AIN'T HAPPENIN'!
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S TOO COMPLICATED!
AND HOW'RE YOU GONNA PAY UP FOR WHAT YOU DID TO CASCA AT THE TOWER OF CONVICTION?!
A LITTLE MORE AND SHE WOULD'VE BEEN A CHARRED CORPSE!!
HIM, TOO.
IF YESTERDAY'S ENEMIES ARE TODAY'S FRIENDS...
...FIRST MAKE SOME DAMN SENSE.
MAYBE I'LL EXPEL HIM...
So! MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO KOWTOW ONCE FOR US? CAN YOU DO THAT, MISS HIGH-PRIDE ARISTOCRAT?
......
REACH
SNK
OH-HOHH?! YOU WANNA FIGHT?! F-F-F-FINE BY ME!!
FLINCH
CHAK

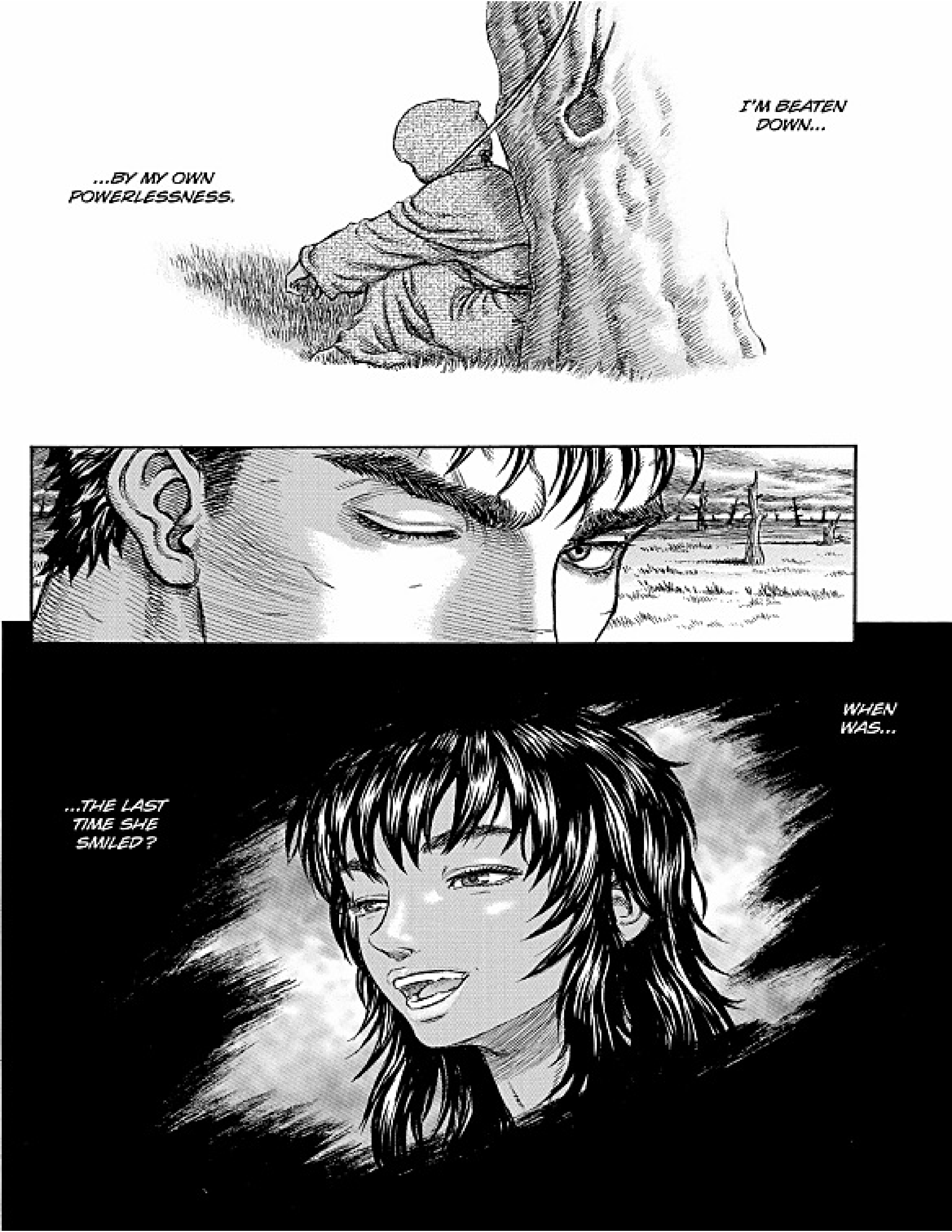

THIS IS ALL I CAN DO NOW...
SOMEDAY I *WILL* MAKE AMENDS...
WHY DO PRIESTS AND NOBLES GOTTA BE SO DRASTIC?
AHHH...
OOOO...
IF YOU SAY ANYTHING ELSE, YOU'LL TOTALLY BE A VILLAIN.
*BUH BUH


DO WHAT YOU WANT.
ALL...
ALL RIGHT THEN...
......
OH, THAT WAS FAST.
AND I DON'T NEED PAYBACK OR APOLOGIES.
I'VE KILLED YOUR COMRADES.
WE'RE EVEN.

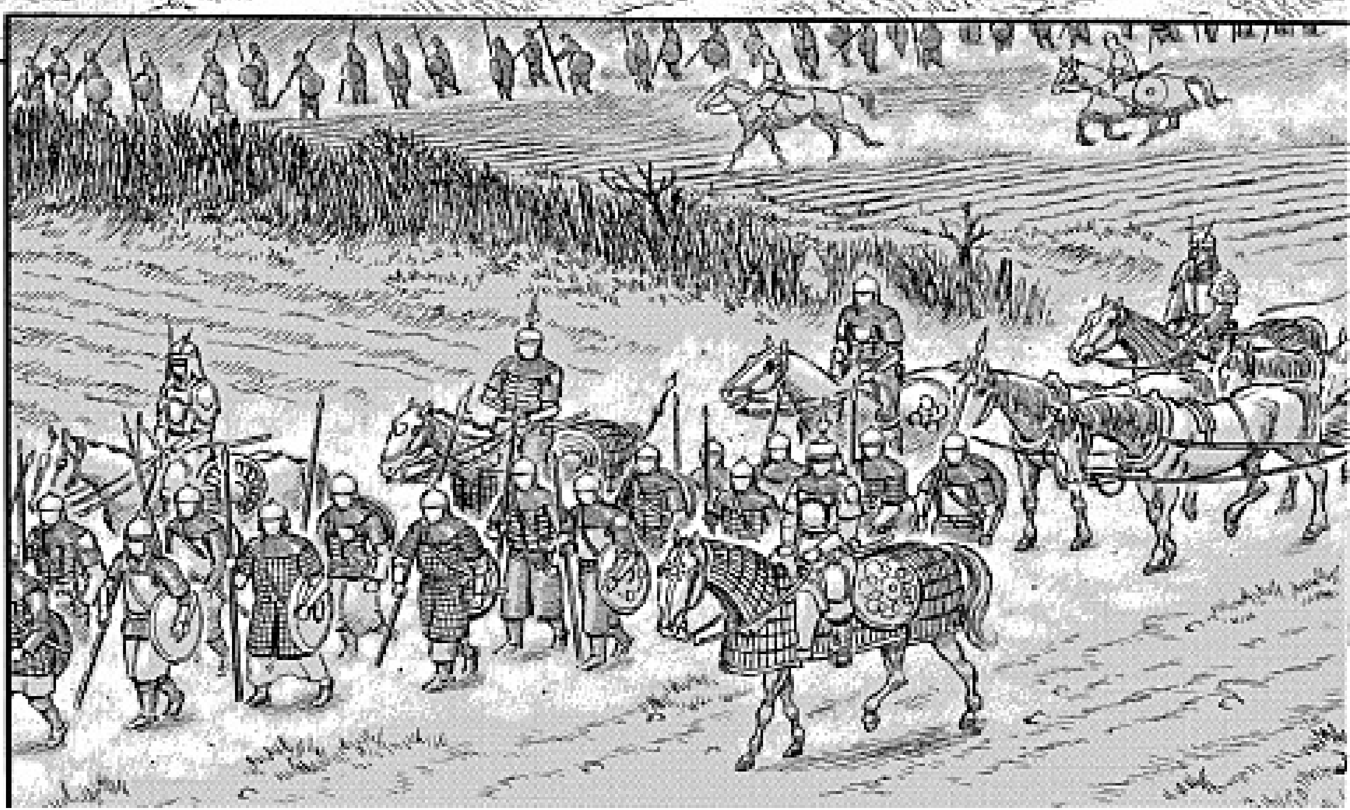

BUT FORGET ME SHOWING YOU "THE WAY."
THAT AIN'T MY STYLE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS YOU WANT TO LEARN...
...BUT DO IT YOURSELF.
I WON'T BOTHER YOU IF YOU DON'T BOTHER ME.
THANK YOU...
IT'S STILL TOO SOON FOR THAT.
YOU MIGHT REGRET THIS BY TOMORROW MORNING.

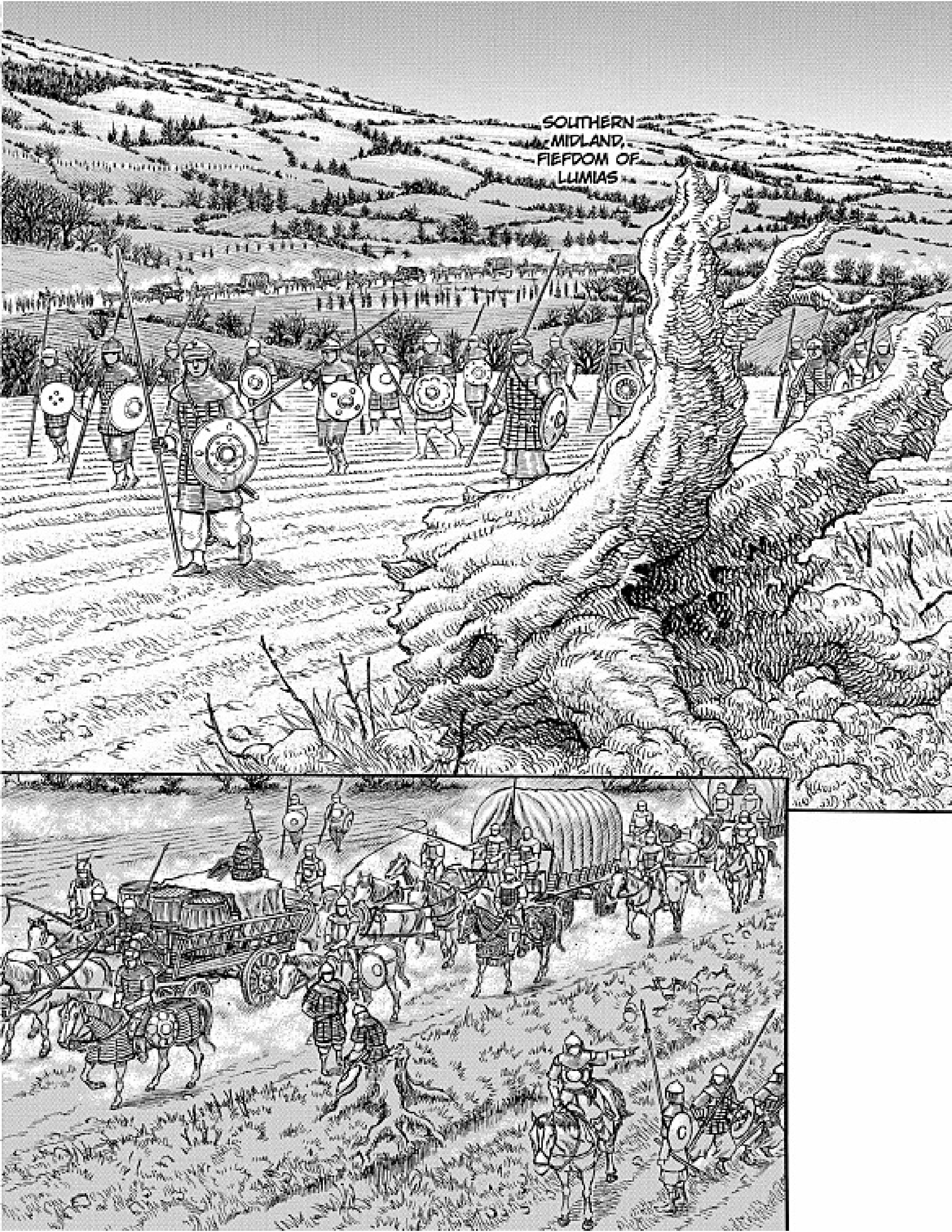

GOING WITH US MEANS...
...YOU WON'T HAVE ANY MORE RESTFUL NIGHTS.
OH YEAH?! YOU MEAN WE'LL FIND MORE GHOSTS AND MONSTERS?!
TH-THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT!!
SOMETHIN'S ODD...
FOR GUTS TO ACCEPT OTHER PEOPLE THAT READILY...
WELL ...WE'LL ... SEE ABOUT THAT.
THE NIGHT'S LONG.
YEAHHH!!
......


IF I WAS ALONE...
IF IT WAS THE USUAL ME, I'D BE REFUSING THEM OUTRIGHT.
HONESTLY...
...THIS TIME, I GIVE UP.
FOR THE FIRST TIME...
...I'M COUNTING ON COMPLETE STRANGERS FOR HELP.
EVERYONE GATHER UP FIREWOOD. WE GOTTA KEEP IT GOIN' ALL NIGHT.
WHY'RE YOU GIVIN' ORDERS?
I'M SHUDDERING AT...
...MY OWN SINISTERNESS.

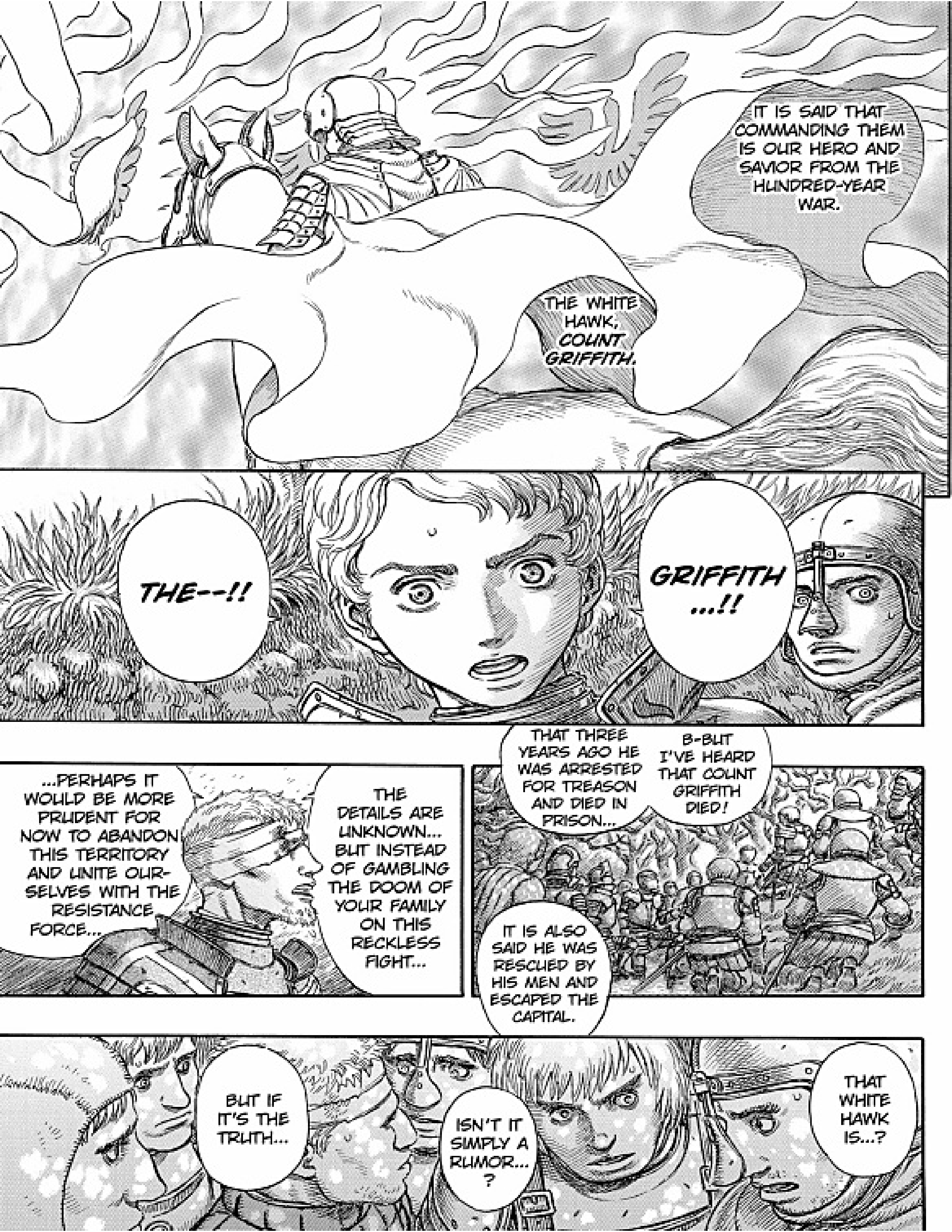

I'M BEATEN DOWN...
...BY MY OWN POWERLESSNESS.
WHEN WAS...
...THE LAST TIME SHE SMILED?


AGAIN...
...THE CURTAIN OF NIGHT DESCENDS.

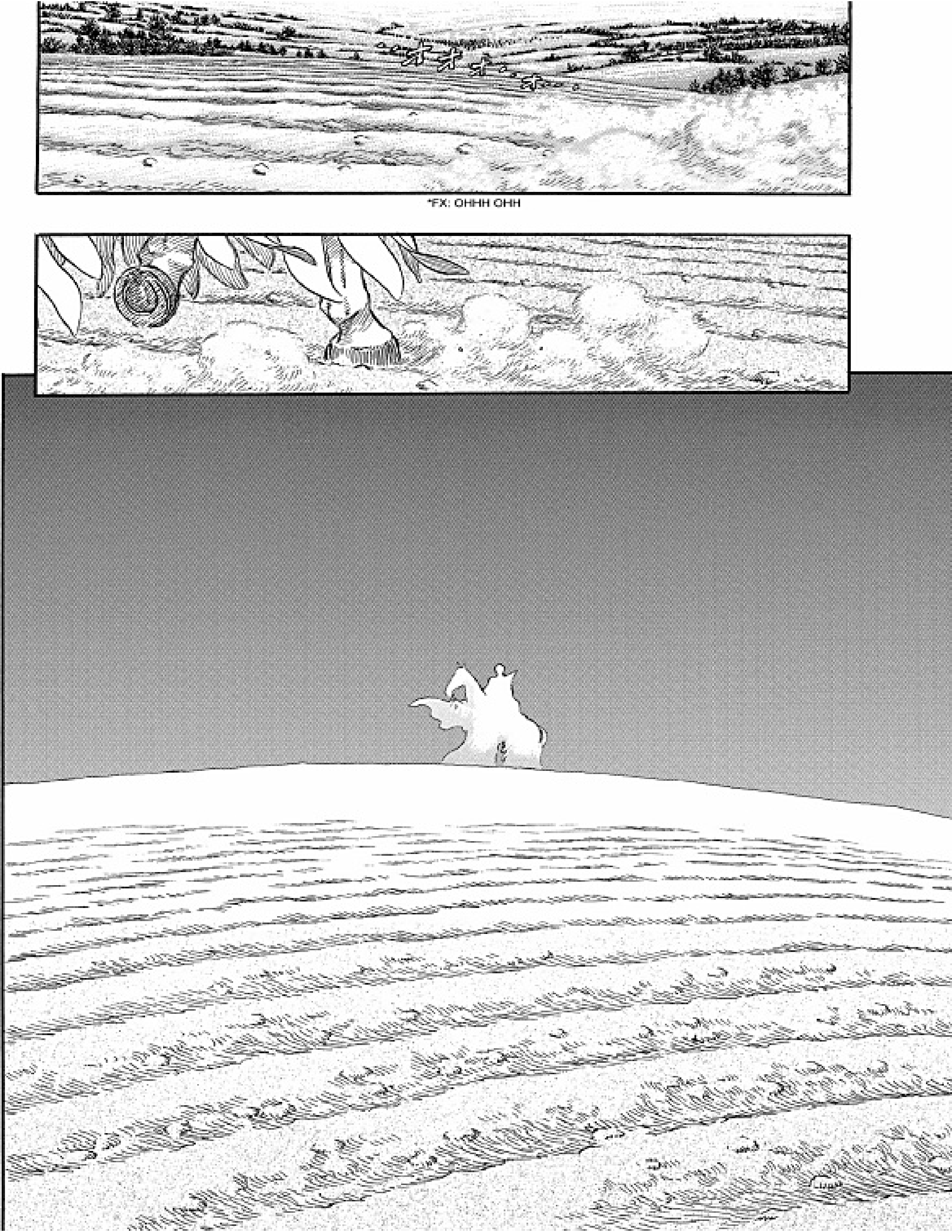

SOUTHERN MIDLAND, FIEFDOM OF LUMIAS

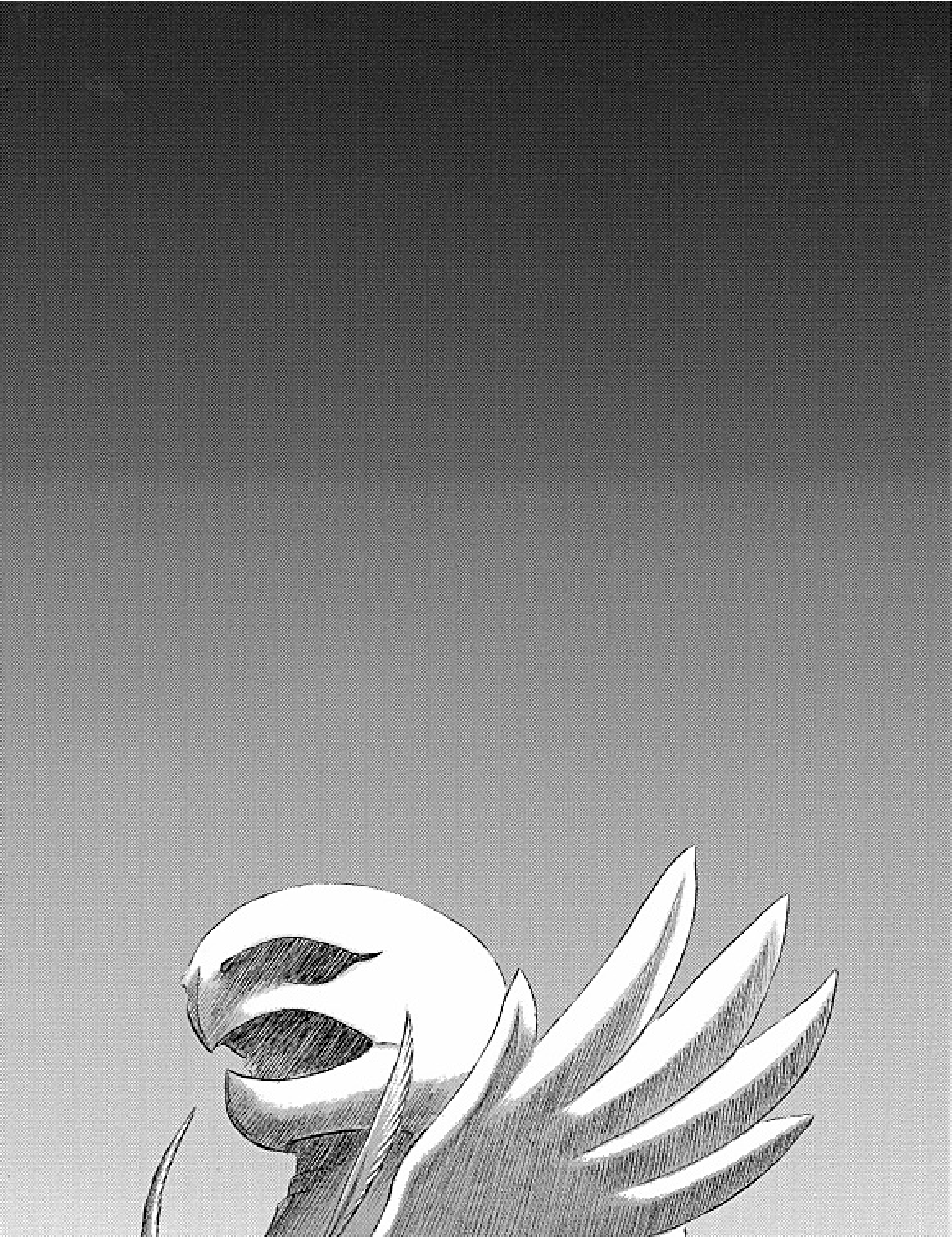

DAMN IT!
THEY PLAN TO CARRY OFF EVERYTHING!
LORD MULE, DO YOU SERIOUSLY INTEND TO ENGAGE THEM?
ENOUGH, SARITUS!
NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, YOU HAVE COLD FEET?!
STANDING BACK, WATCHING THEM VIOLATE OUR LAND, IS THE ULTIMATE INSULT TO A MEMBER OF MIDLAND'S NOBILITY!!
I COULD NEVER FACE THE ROYAL FAMILY!!
BUT LUMIAS IS A SMALL FIEFDOM. YOUR FAMILY IS NOT EVEN PERMITTED TO ENTER THE ROYAL PALACE.
THERE IS NO NEED FOR US TO RISK OUR LIVES IN DUTY TO THE ROYAL FAMILY...
THEN WHAT OF MY FATHER AND BROTHERS, WHO DIED IN HEROIC DEFENSE OF THE CASTLE?!
YOU MEAN THEY DIED IN VAIN?!
ALL THE MORE REASON, M'LORD... SO THAT THE BLOODLINE WILL NOT BE CUT OFF...
I HEARD THIS FROM MY LORD WHILE HE WAS ALIVE... THAT THERE IS A RESISTANCE FORCE...
...GOING AROUND, LIBERATING VARIOUS AREAS FROM THE KUSHAN WITHIN OCCUPIED MIDLAND...


IT IS SAID THAT COMMANDING THEM IS OUR HERO AND SAVIOR FROM THE HUNDRED-YEAR WAR.
THE WHITE HAWK, COUNT GRIFFITH.
GRIFFITH ...!!
THE--!!
B-BUT I'VE HEARD THAT COUNT GRIFFITH DIED!
THAT THREE YEARS AGO HE WAS ARRESTED FOR TREASON AND DIED IN PRISON...
IT IS ALSO SAID HE WAS RESCUED BY HIS MEN AND ESCAPED THE CAPITAL.
THE DETAILS ARE UNKNOWN... BUT INSTEAD OF GAMBLING THE DOOM OF YOUR FAMILY ON THIS RECKLESS FIGHT...
...PERHAPS IT WOULD BE MORE PRUDENT FOR NOW TO ABANDON THIS TERRITORY AND UNITE OURSELVES WITH THE RESISTANCE FORCE...
THAT WHITE HAWK IS...?
ISN'T IT SIMPLY A RUMOR... ?
BUT IF IT'S THE TRUTH...


*FX: AGGHHHH
!
LORD MULE, PLEASE EXERCISE PRUDENCE IN THIS.
......
THOSE ARE OUR PEOPLE! THEY DON'T KNOW THE CASTLE FELL, AND ON THEIR WAY THERE THEY RAN INTO THE KUSHAN...!!
THERE'S WOMEN AND CHILDREN, TOO!!
LORD MULE ...
......!!
*FX: SNCH
*FX: ZHA
THIS ISN'T ABOUT ROYAL DEVOTION ...
...OR MY HONOR AS A NOBLE...


ALL OF YOU FOLLOW ME!!
RESCUE OUR SUBJECTS!!
*ROHHH

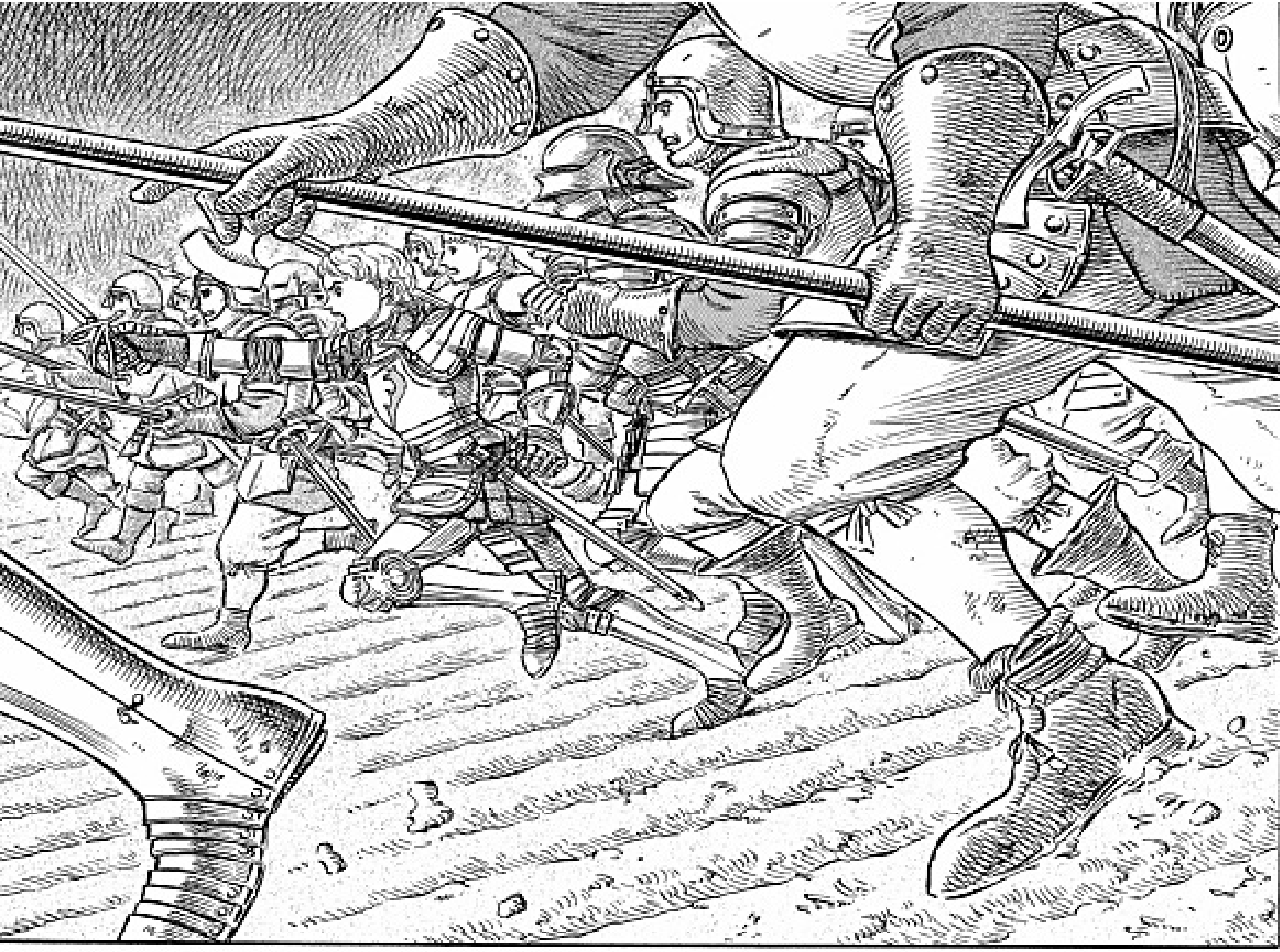

*FX: OHHH OHH



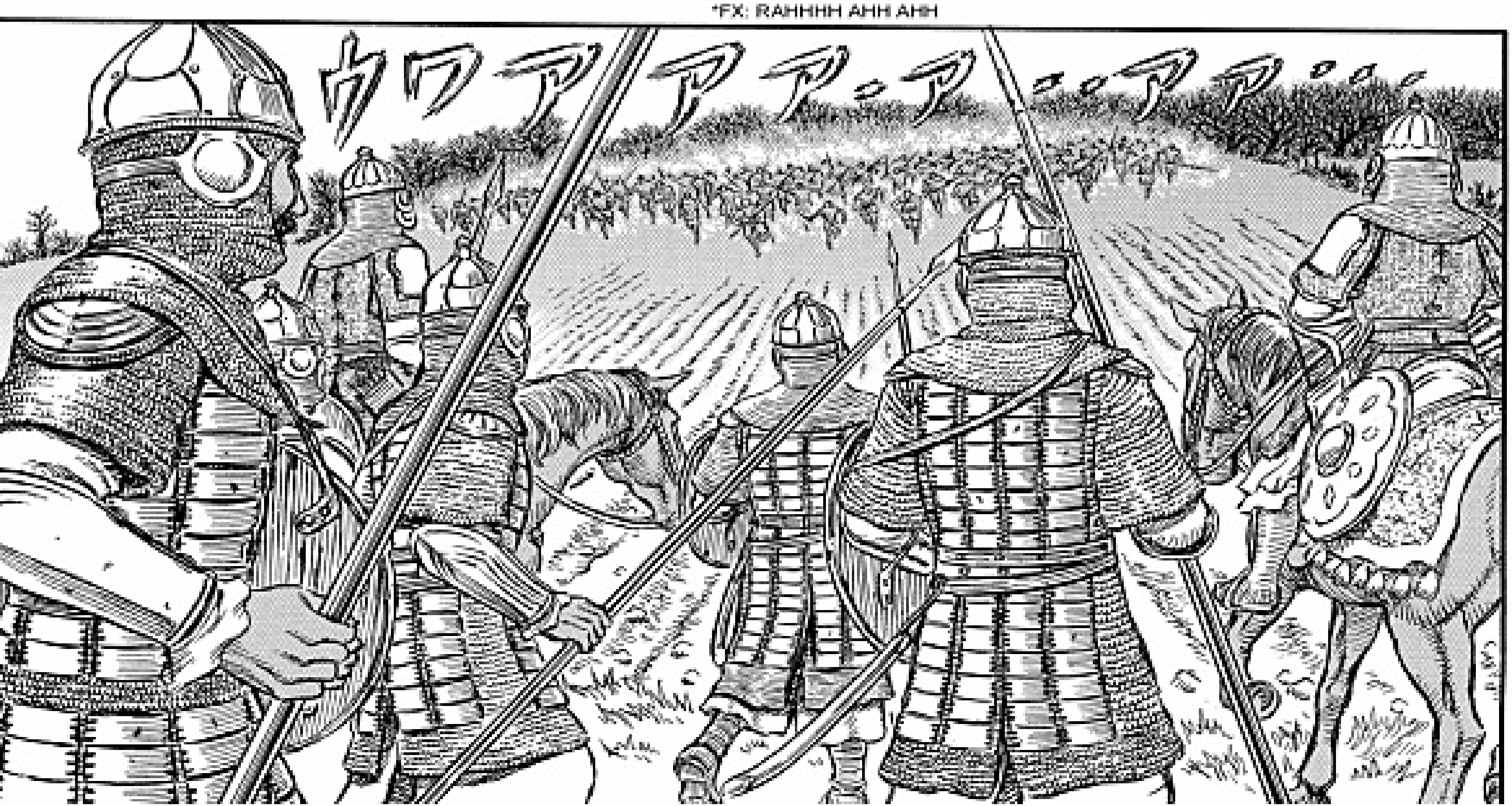
THE WAR DEMONS

戦魔

BERSERK



*FX: RAHHHH AHH AHH

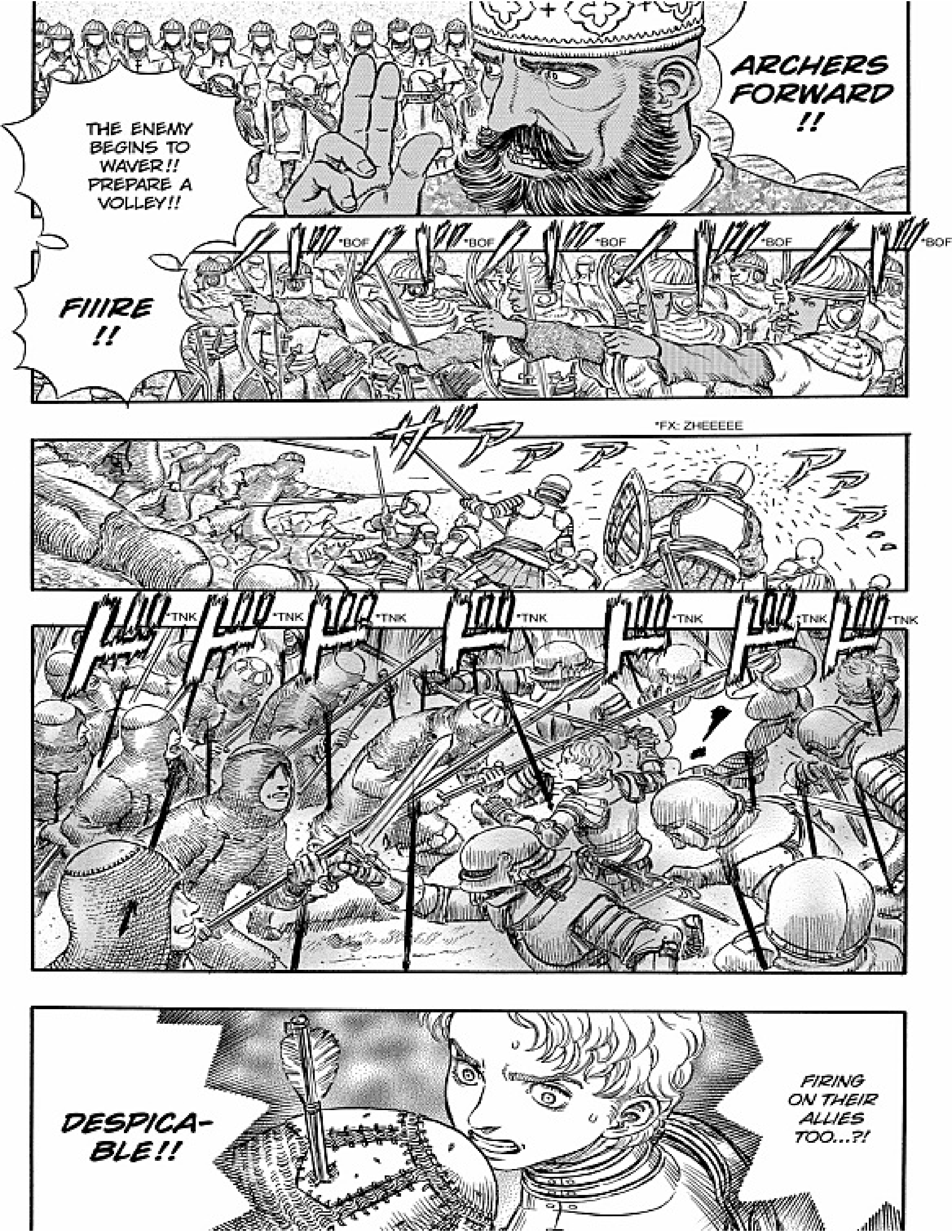



ENEMY REMNANTS, GENERAL!
HMPH! HOW CUNNING.
SEND THE WAR SLAVES TO MEET THEM!!
*GSHANNNG
GO!
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, SURVIVE THIS BATTLE!!
DON'T FORGET!! THE ARROWS OF OUR ARCHERS ARE ALWAYS AIMED AT YOUR BACKS!!



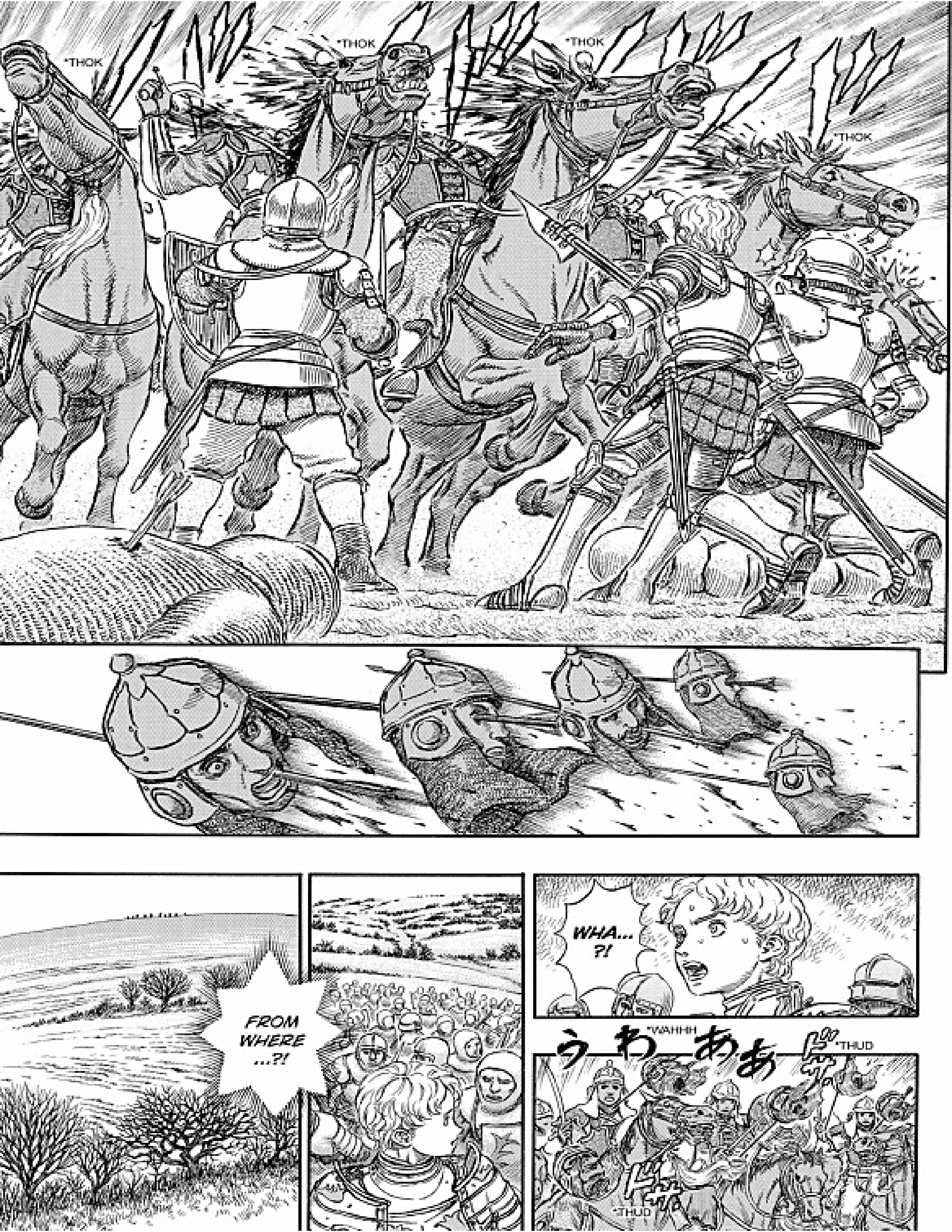
オオオオ
*OHHHH


*DOSH
*GSHANNG
NO...!!
THEY'RE NOT KUSHAN ?!
THEY'RE... MIDLANDER PRISON-ERS?!
*FX: RAHHHH AHHH
HUH HUH ...
THESE WAR SLAVES ARE ONE OF THE PRIMARY REASONS OUR EMPIRE HAS EXPANDED ITS TERRITORY SO!
RESTRICT YOUR OWN CASUALTIES TO A MINIMUM, AND YET BREAK THE ENEMY'S FIGHTING SPIRIT CONSIDERABLY!
THEN AS LONG AS WE KEEP WINNING, THERE'S NO NEED TO REPLENISH OUR FORCES! THE MORE WAR WE WAGE, THE MORE WAR CAPACITY WE HAVE!
IT IS THIS STRATEGY ITSELF, BACKED BY FEAR, THAT HAS MADE OUR GREAT LONG-LASTING CAMPAIGN POSSIBLE!

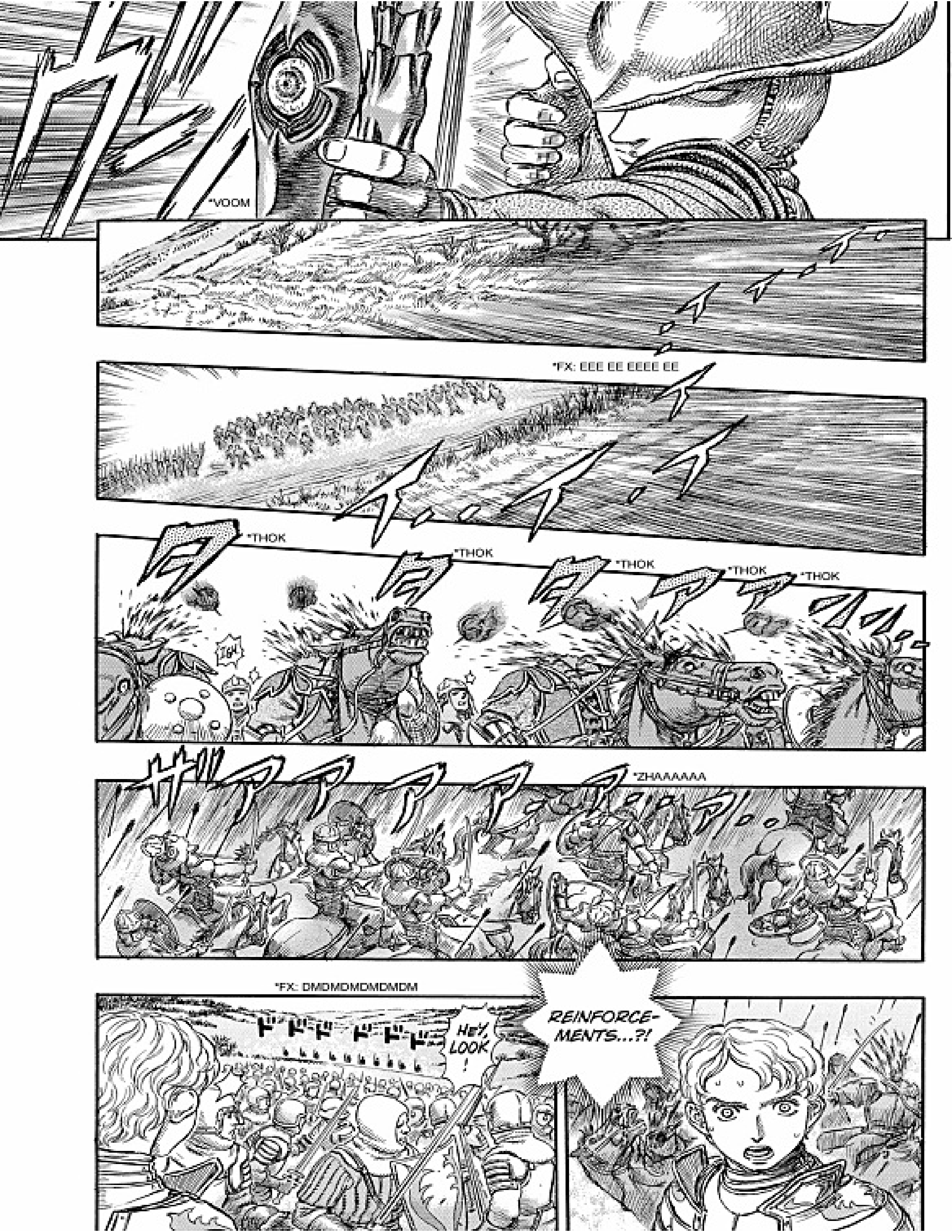


ARCHERS FORWARD !!
THE ENEMY BEGINS TO WAVER!! PREPARE A VOLLEY!!
FIIIRE !!
*BOF
*BOF
*BOF
*BOF
*BOF
*FX: ZHEEEEE
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
*TNK
FIRING ON THEIR ALLIES TOO...?!
DESPICA-BLE!!


CAVALRY, CHARGE!! EXTERMINATE THEM!!
THEY ATTACKED US WITH THOSE NUMBERS!! THOSE PREPARED FOR DEATH WILL NOT BECOME WAR SLAVES!!
KILL THEM ALL!!
*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP BDADUMP
*FX: RAHHHHH
KH...
*KREEEEEN

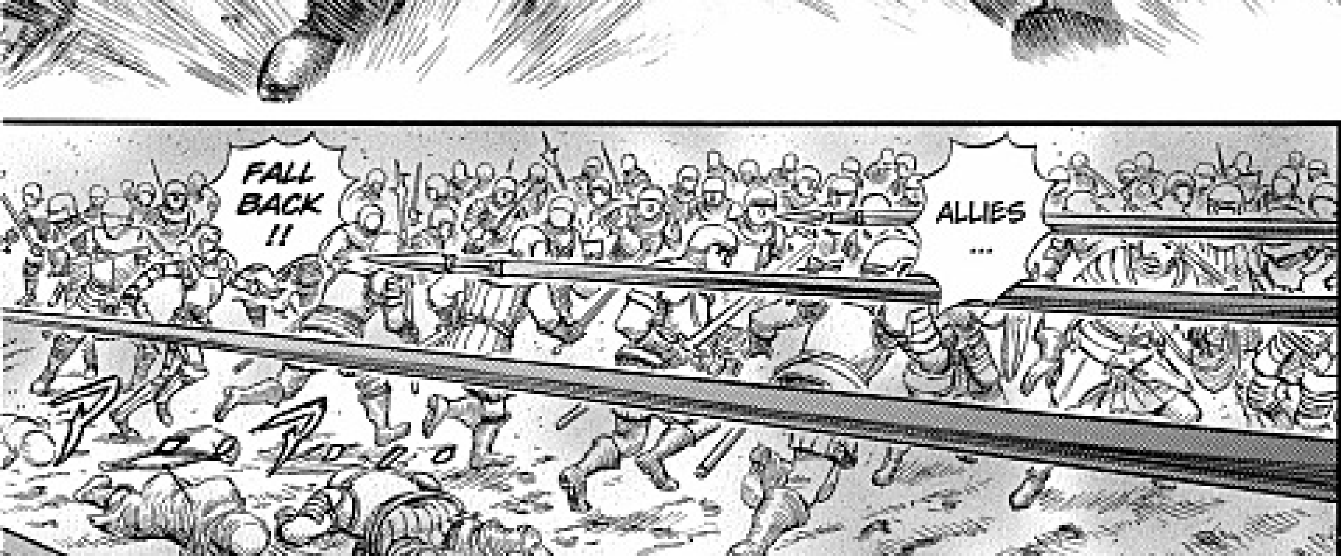

*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
FROM WHERE ...?!
WHA... ?!
うわああ
*WAHHH
*THUD
*THUD


*CHAK
*VAAN
*VAAN
*VEEN
*REEEN


*VOOM
*FX: EEE EE EEEE EE
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
*THOK
*ZHAAAAAA
*FX: DMDMDMDMDMDM
HEY, LOOK!
REINFORCE-MENTS...?!


*FX: DMDMDMDMDMDMDM
*FX: RAHHHHH AHH

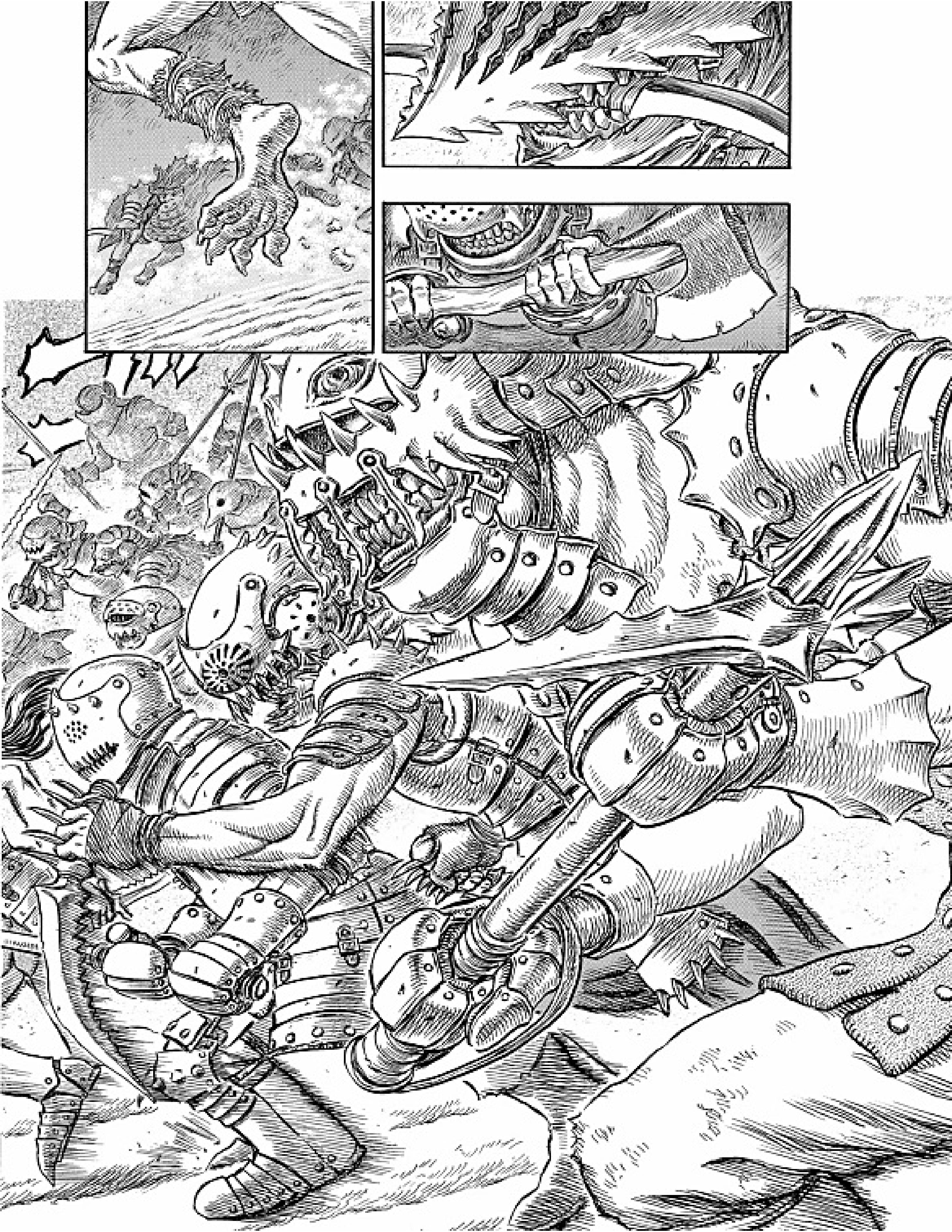



FALL BACK !!
ALLIES ...


*ZHUNK
*BRMMMBLE
*UWAHHHH
WH-WHO THE HELL ARE THEY?!
A FEW DOZEN OF THEM ARE ROUTING OUR CAVALRY OF FIVE HUNDRED ...?!


DON'T BE DISTURBED!! NOT BY SO FEW HORSEMEN !!
SPREAD OUT AND SURROUND THEM!!
SHOW THEM THE FULL POWER OF THE KUSHAN CAVALRY'S CONTINENTAL CONQUEST!!
*GROWWN
*FX: FLINCH
*HRRRHRHRN
WHAT'S WRONG ?!
?!
WHOA! WHOA!
*DMDMDMDMDM
!
GENERAL!! NEW FORCES ON OUR LEFT FLANK.


*RMMMMBLE




*WHOM
*SHNK
*SHNK



WHAT ARE THEY ?!
MON-STERRRS !!
*FX: UWAHHHH
THE ENEMY NUMBERS LESS THAN A HUNDRED!!
YOU MUSTN'T RETREAT !!
*FX: GCHIK
YOU CALL YOURSELVES KUSHAN ELITE...?!
*DGOOOOM




*GOSSH
*LOOOOM
*DOCH
*ZOON
AUGHHHH!!
*ZOON
*GULCH
G-GIANTS !!
G-GENERAL ...!!
...!!
C-COULD THESE BE...
...THE FORCES ABOUT WHICH WORD WAS RECEIVED, GOING AROUND LIBERATING VARIOUS POSTS WE'VE TAKEN...?!


THAT'S --
THAT EMBLEM IS--
THAT'S...!! N-NO MISTAKING IT!!


オオオオオオ・オ・・
*ROHHHHH
!

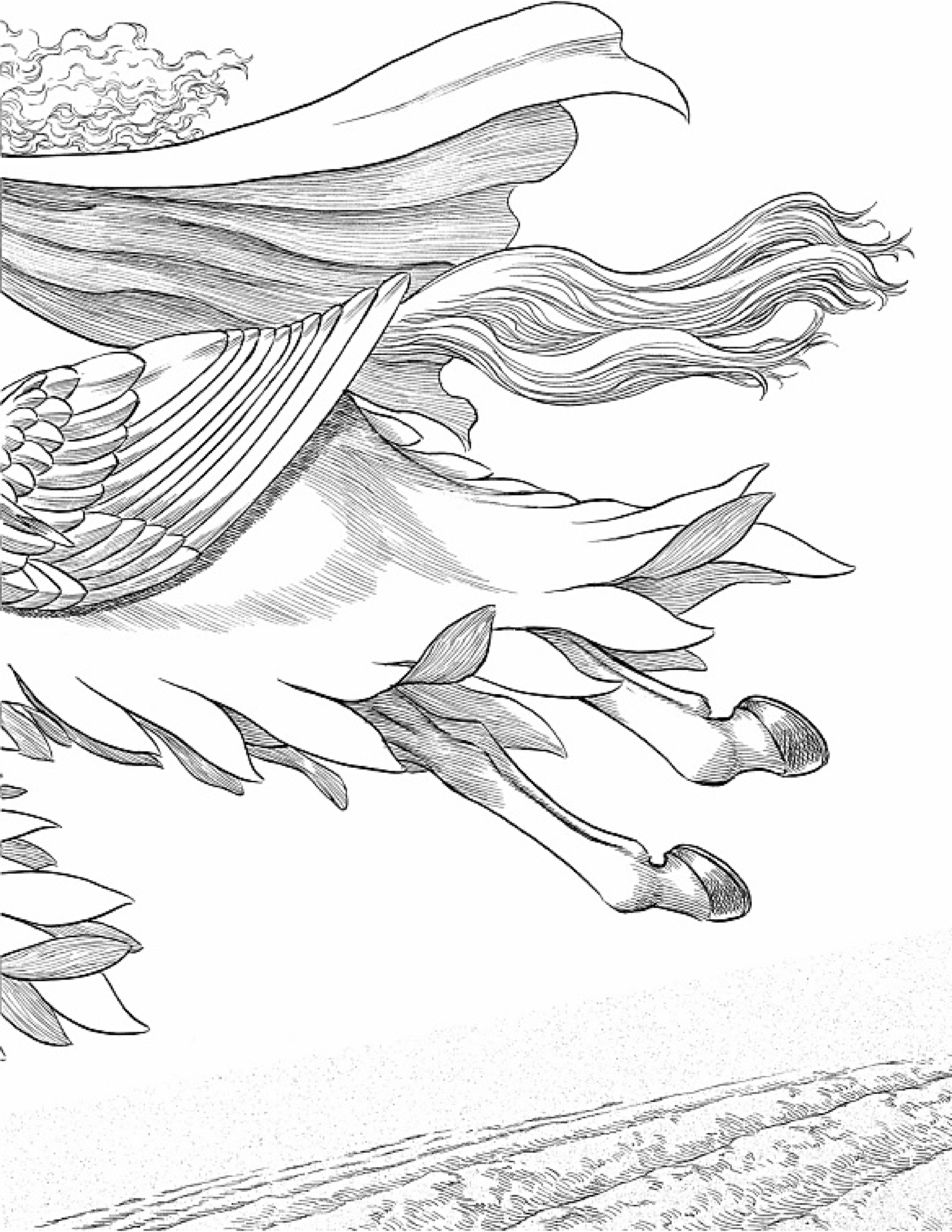




飛剣の御旗

BANNER OF THE FLYING SWORD



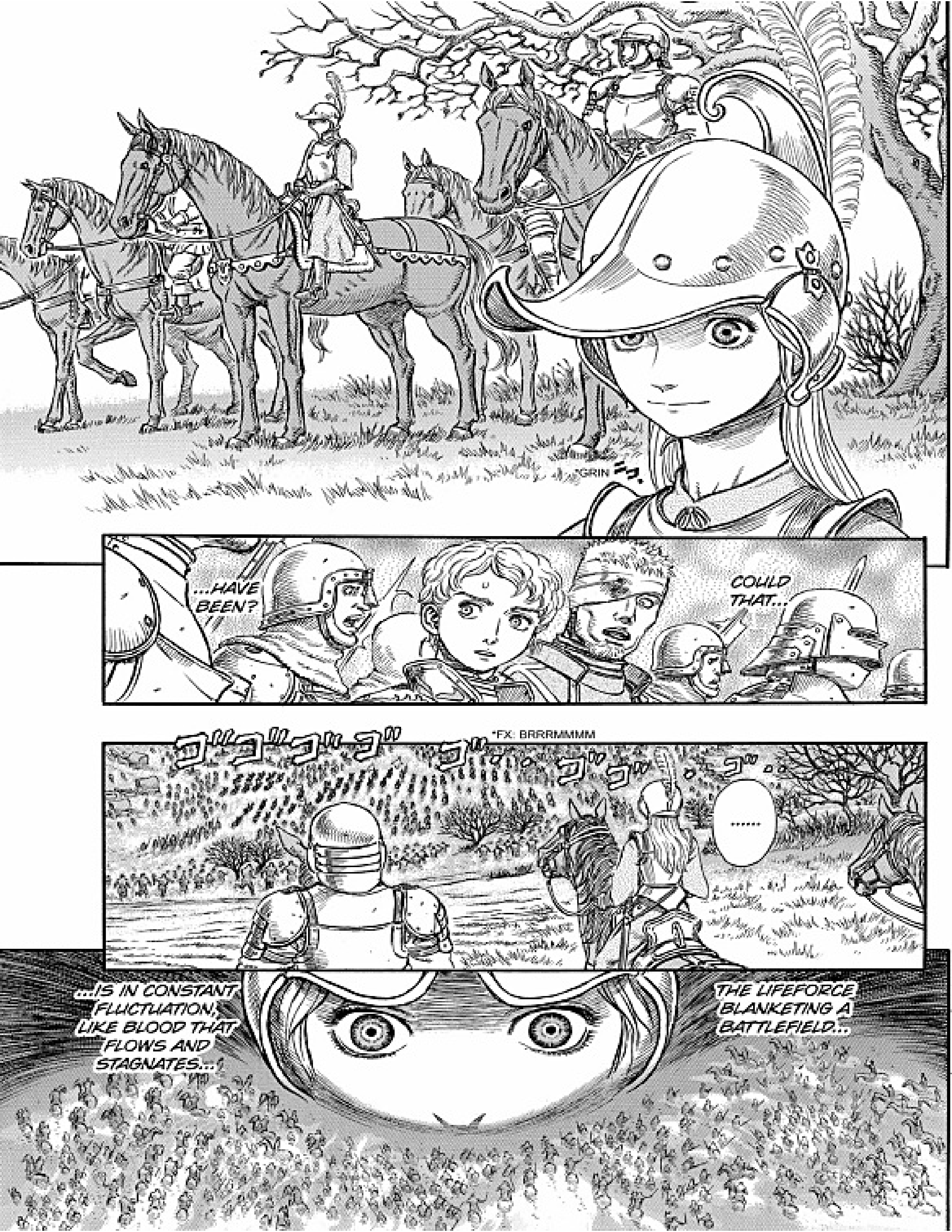



*DM
*DM
*DM
*DM
FOLLOW THE HAAAWK !!
*DM
*FX: ROHHHH


WH-WHAT A MAGNIFICENT ARROW-HEAD FORMATION!! THEY'RE CARVING RIGHT INTO THAT LARGE ARMY...!!
A... AMAZING ...!!
THERE IS NO MISTAKING IT, LORD MULE!!
THAT EMBLEM!! IT IS THE MIDLAND RESISTANCE FORCE!! THE BAND OF THE HAWK!!
THAT KNIGHT IN THE SILVER ARMOR IS OUR KINGDOM'S HERO HIMSELF.
THE WHITE HAWK, COUNT GRIFFITH!!
THE WHITE HAWK.
GRIFFITH ...!!!

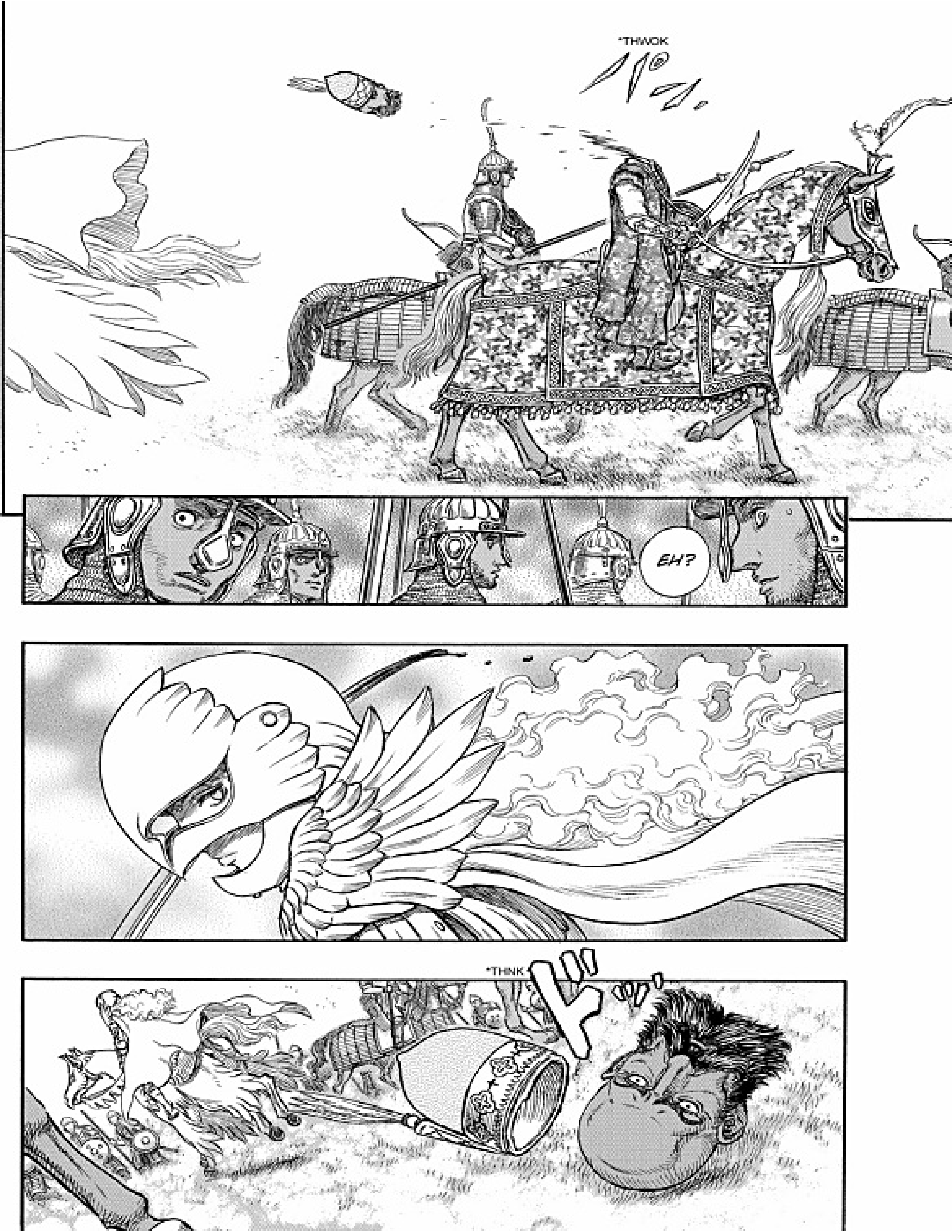


H-HALT
...!!
WATCH
OUT!!
THIS IS
OUR
FIEFDOM!!
RIGHT!
DON'T FALL
BEHIND!
AYYYYE!!
*SMP
*SMP
*SMP
*SMP
!
WHAT
WAS THAT
IN MY
MIND...?!
STRAY
ARROWS
...?!
THAT WAS
CLOSE. IF
WE'D TAKEN
ANOTHER
HALF STEP...!!

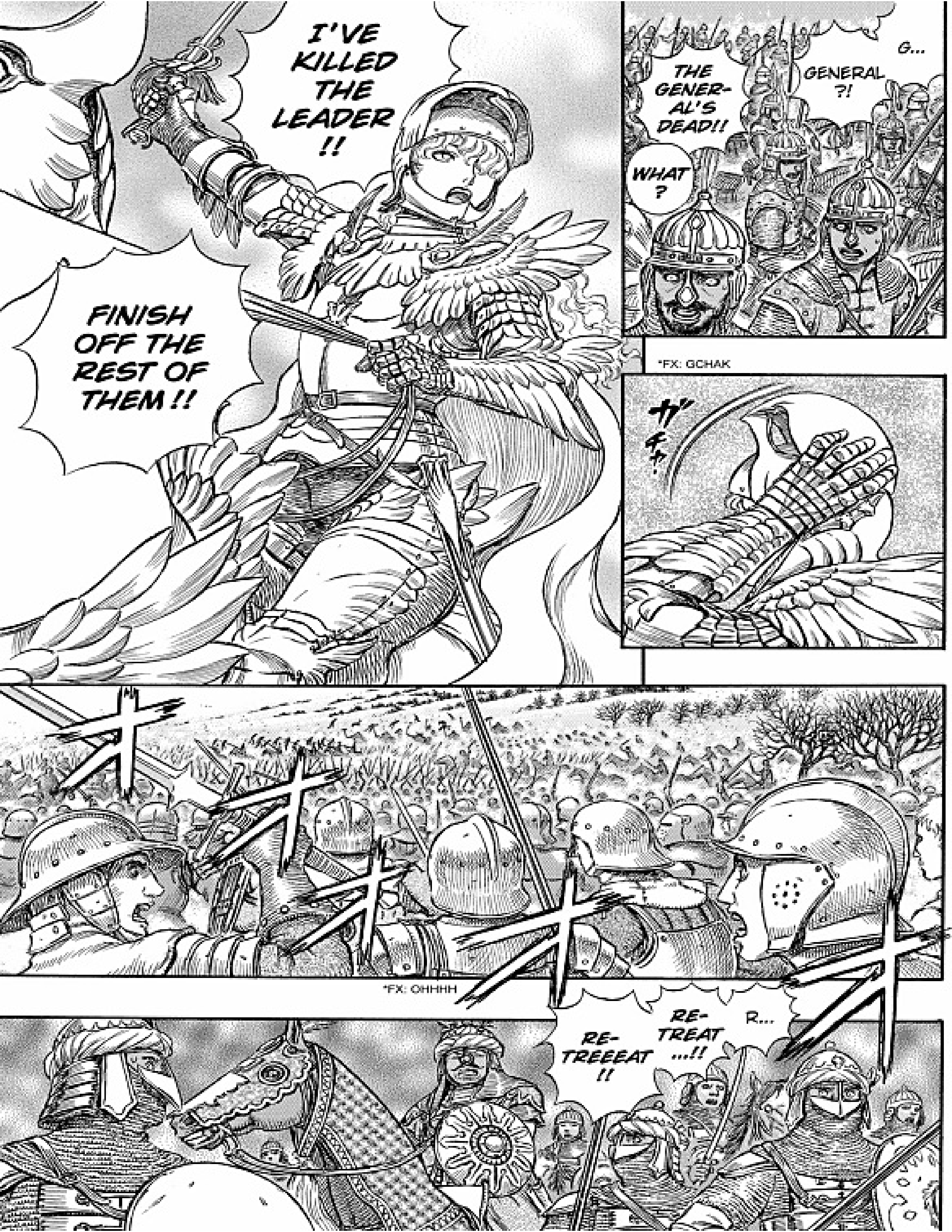

*GRIN
COULD THAT...
...HAVE BEEN?
*FX: BRRRMMMM
......
THE LIFEFORCE BLANKETING A BATTLEFIELD...
...IS IN CONSTANT FLUCTUATION, LIKE BLOOD THAT FLOWS AND STAGNATES...

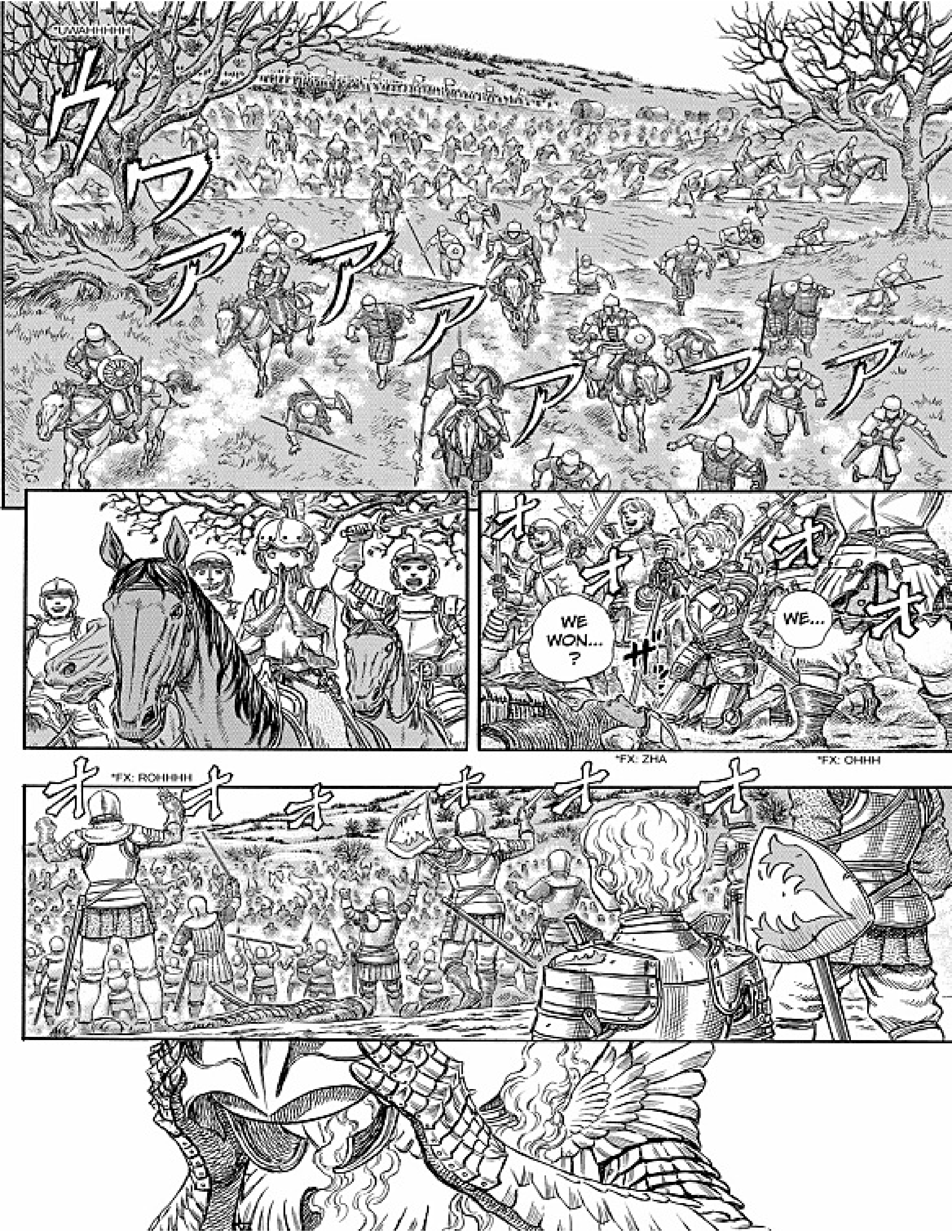

OUR OPENING LIES ALONG A DIRECT VECTOR.
ITS VERTEX IS THE HEART OF THE ENEMY'S WILL...!
LORD GRIFFITH !!
*LEEEEAP
HE... HE FLEW ?!


*FWHOOOOSH
ALL FORCES ASSUME AN ENCLOSING FORMATION!
HUR ...?!



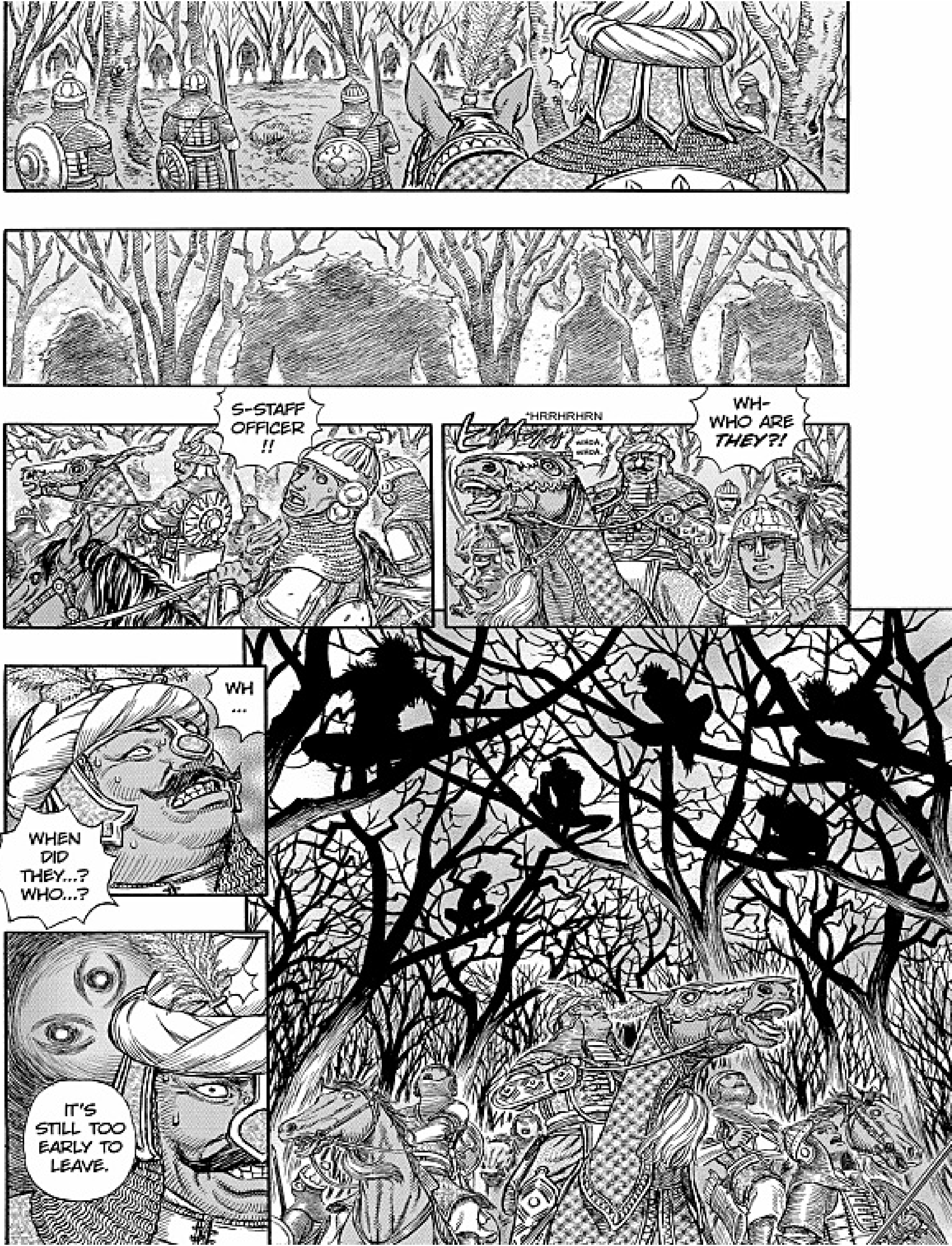
*THWOK
EH?
*THNK


G...
GENERAL ?!
THE GENERAL'S DEAD!!
WHAT ?
*FX: GCHAK
I'VE KILLED THE LEADER !!
FINISH OFF THE REST OF THEM !!
*FX: OHHHH
R...
RE-TREAT ...!!
RE-TREEEAT !!


*UWAHHHHHH
ウワァァァァァァ
オォオォ
WE...
WE WON... ?
ザ
*FX: OHHH
*FX: ZHA
オオオオオオ
*FX: ROHHHH



WHAT A DISASTER! BY NO MORE THAN A THOUSAND ENEMIES AT BEST... NO, IN ACTUALITY BY THAT VANGUARD OF A MERE HUNDRED!
FIVE THOUSAND OF KUSHAN'S PROUDLY EVER-VICTORIOUS ELITE WERE ROUTED WITH EASE!!
SO THAT'S THE HAWK OF LIGHT FROM THE BAKIRAKA REPORT!
PERHAPS NOW IS NO TIME TO TOSS ASIDE THE MUTTERINGS OF THE PRIESTS AS NONSENSE! I MUST HURRY BACK TO HEAD-QUARTERS...!

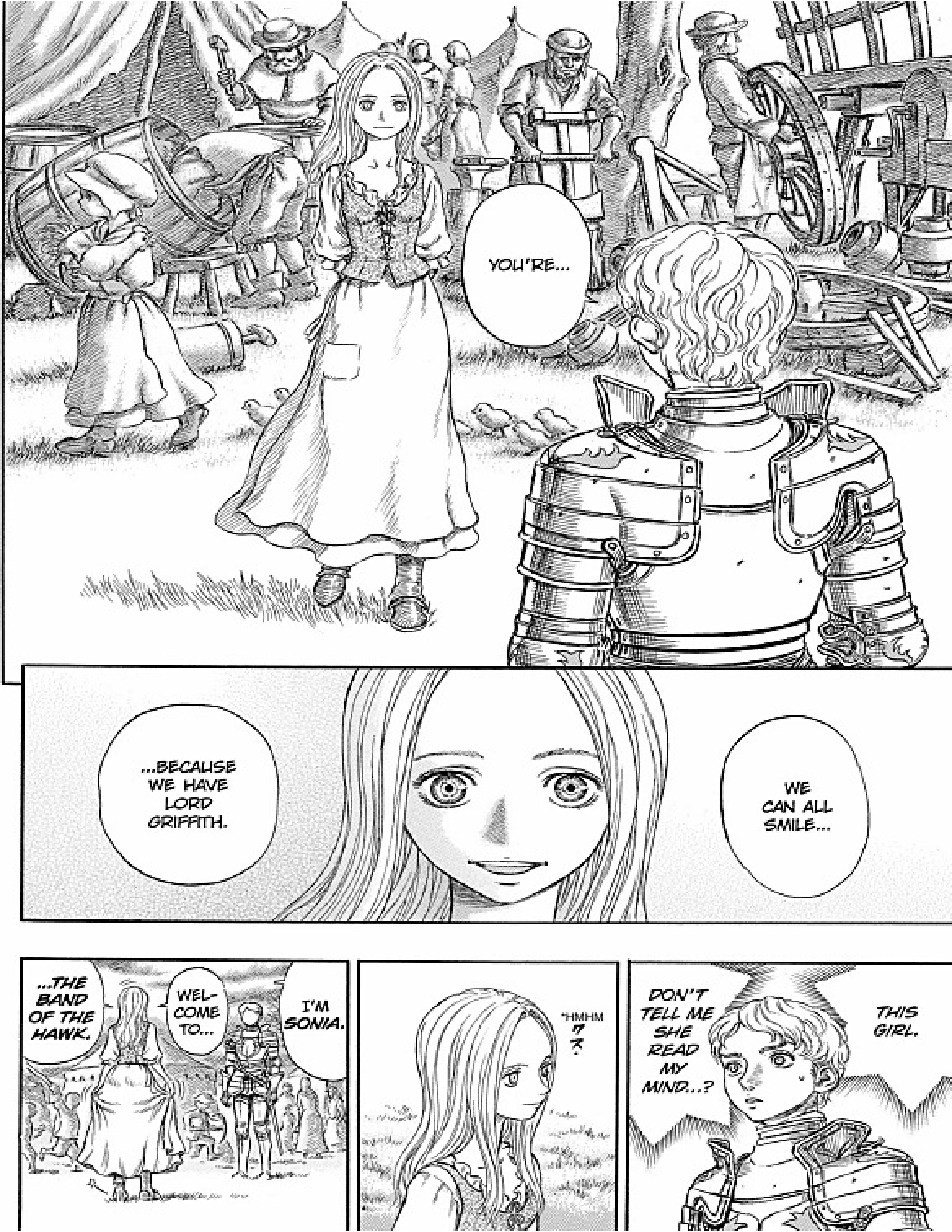

S-STAFF OFFICER !!
*HRRHRHRN
WH- WHO ARE THEY?!
WH ...
WHEN DID THEY...? WHO...?
IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO LEAVE.


WE HAVEN'T YET SEEN BLOOD.
*FX: HEEE
*FX: HEH HEH
*FX: HFF HF HF
*GUHAHAHAHAHAH HAH
*FX: GYAHHHH
*FX: AIIEEE

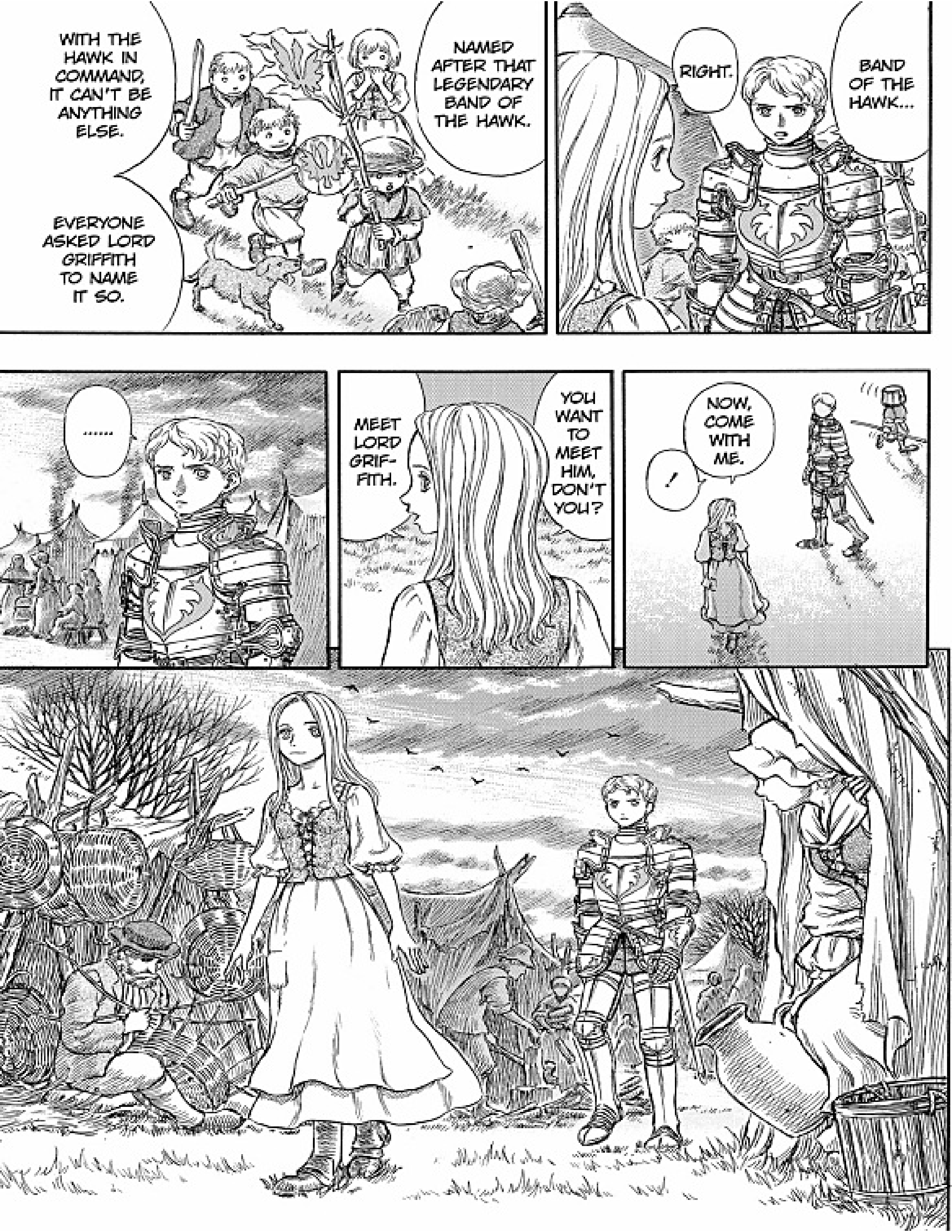





IS THIS REALLY A BATTLEFIELD ?
UNBELIEV-ABLE...
IT LOOKS JUST LIKE SUPPERTIME IN SOME PEACEFUL VILLAGE.
WOMEN, CHILDEN, THE ELDERLY...
!
IT'S LORD GRIFFITH.
THESE GENTLE, SMILING FACES...
THEY DON'T SEEM LIKE PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN OVERRUN BY A FOREIGN ARMY.



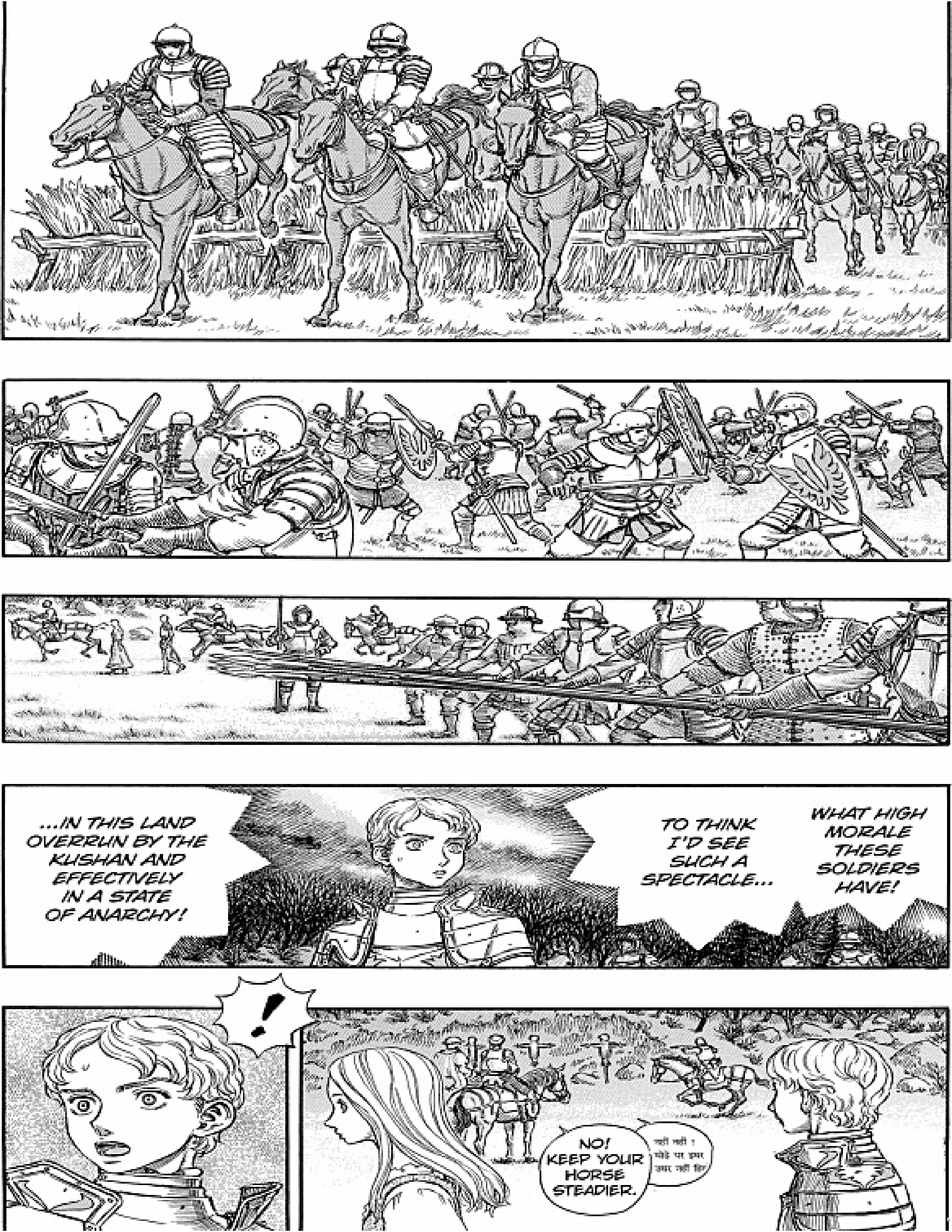
YOU'RE...
WE CAN ALL SMILE...
...BECAUSE WE HAVE LORD GRIFFITH.
THIS GIRL.
DON'T TELL ME SHE READ MY MIND...?
*HMHM
フフ
I'M SONIA.
WEL-COME TO...
...THE BAND OF THE HAWK.


WITH THE HAWK IN COMMAND, IT CAN'T BE ANYTHING ELSE.
NAMED AFTER THAT LEGENDARY BAND OF THE HAWK.
EVERYONE ASKED LORD GRIFFITH TO NAME IT SO.
RIGHT.
BAND OF THE HAWK...
......
MEET LORD GRIF-FITH.
YOU WANT TO MEET HIM, DON'T YOU?
NOW, COME WITH ME.
!

WINGS OF LIGHT
AND DARKNESS

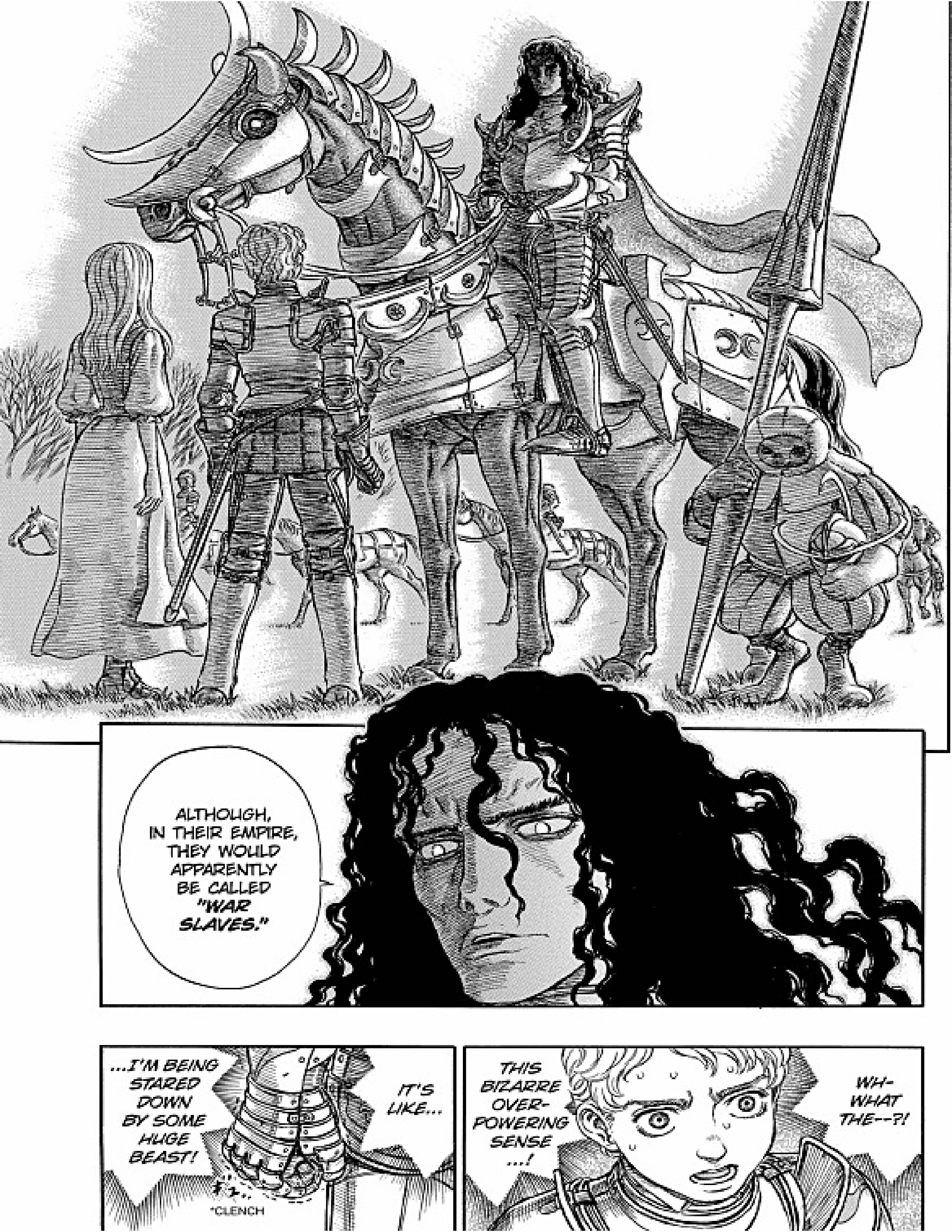
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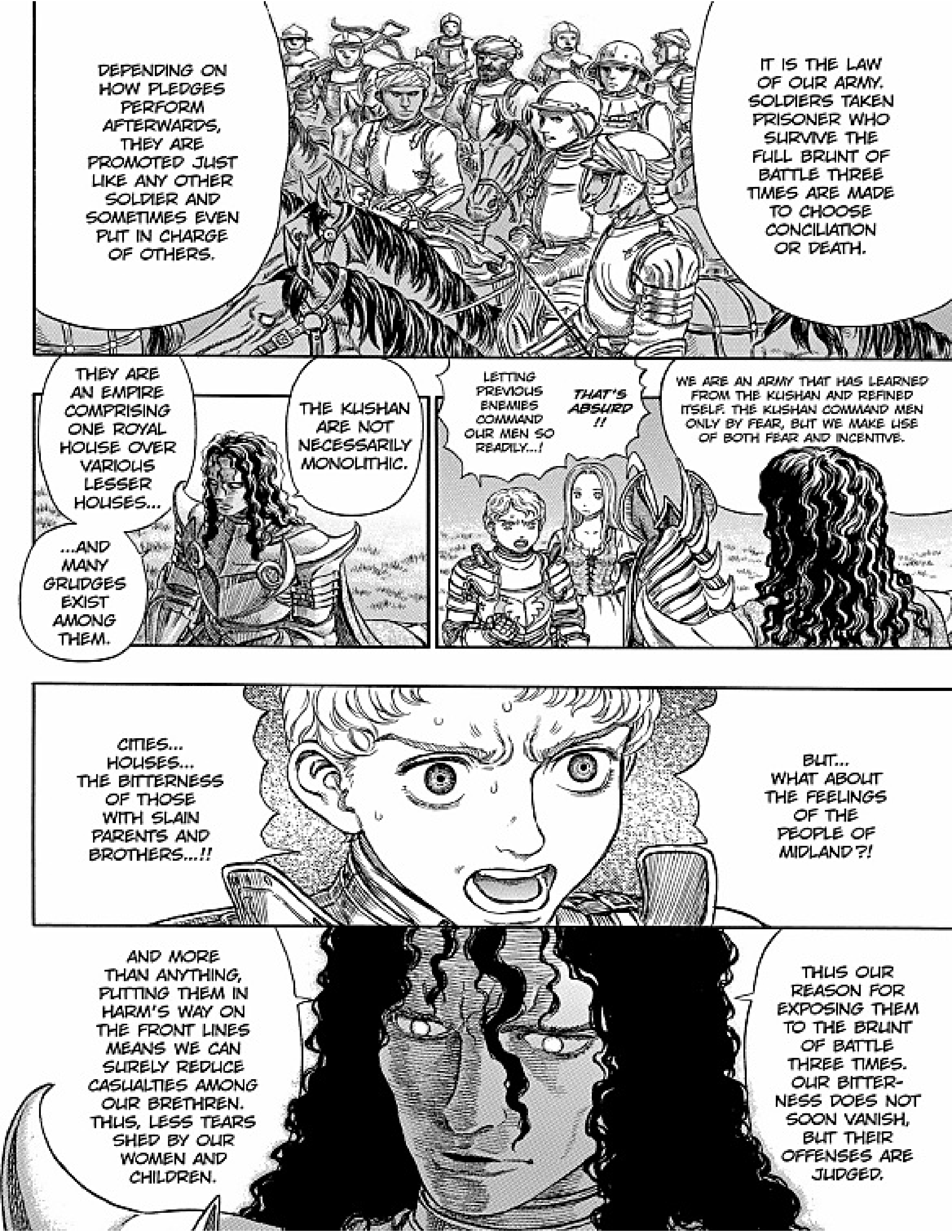
BERSERK


...IN THIS LAND OVERRUN BY THE KUSHAN AND EFFECTIVELY IN A STATE OF ANARCHY!
TO THINK I'D SEE SUCH A SPECTACLE...
WHAT HIGH MORALE THESE SOLDIERS HAVE!
!
NO! KEEP YOUR HORSE STEADIER.



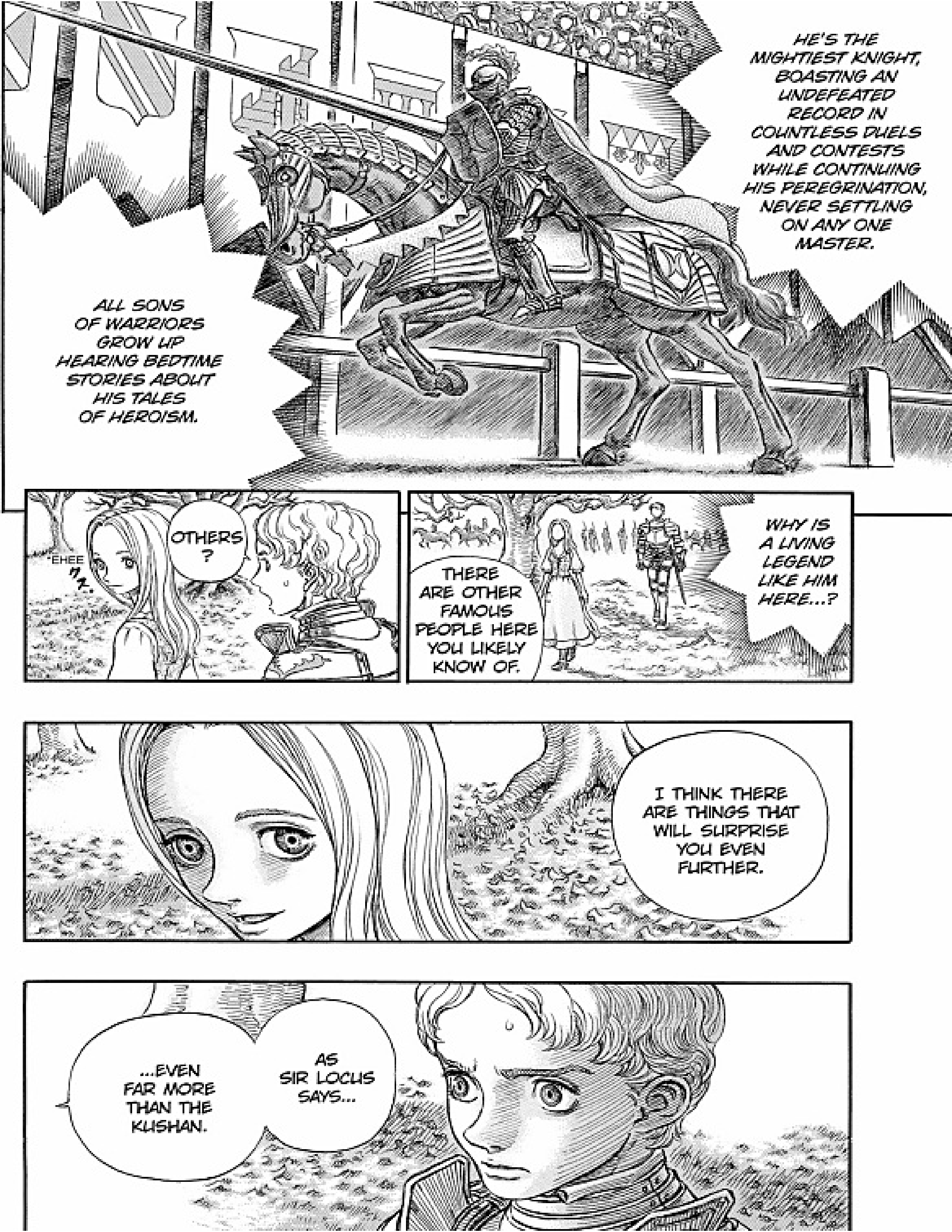
TRY NOT TO LET THE HORSE'S BARREL MOVE UP AND DOWN.
घोड़े को साध कर रखो ।
KUSHAN ...!!
THOSE ARE KUSHAN, AREN'T THEY?!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?! WHY'S THE ENEMY --
THEY AREN'T, NOW.
STOP SHOUTING, ALL RIGHT?
THEY'RE PLEDGES.
THAT'S RIGHT.
"THAT'S RIGHT"?!


ALTHOUGH, IN THEIR EMPIRE, THEY WOULD APPARENTLY BE CALLED "WAR SLAVES."
WH-WHAT THE--?!
THIS BIZARRE OVER-POWERING SENSE ...!
IT'S LIKE...
...I'M BEING STARED DOWN BY SOME HUGE BEAST!
*CLENCH

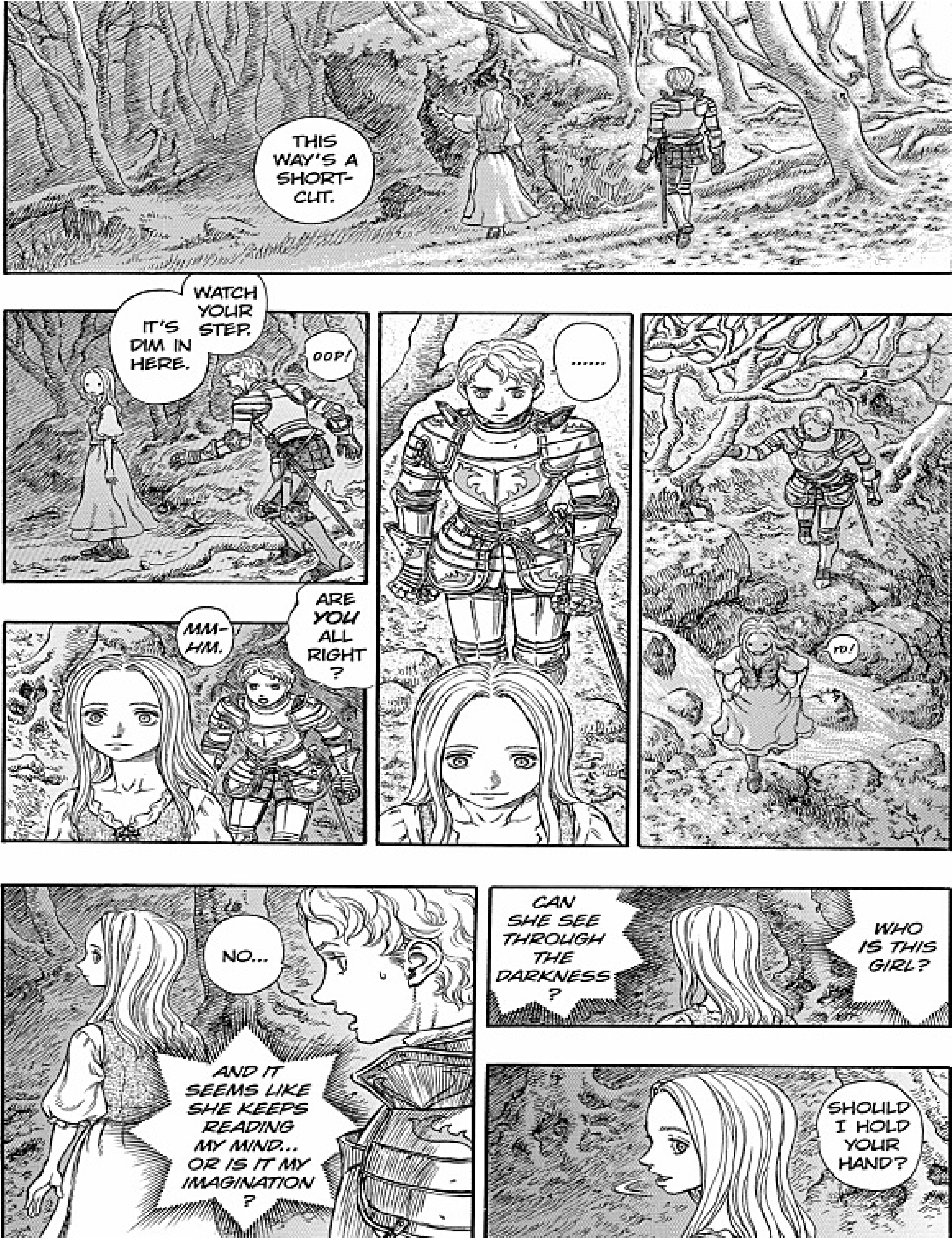

IT IS THE LAW OF OUR ARMY. SOLDIERS TAKEN PRISONER WHO SURVIVE THE FULL BRUNT OF BATTLE THREE TIMES ARE MADE TO CHOOSE CONCILIATION OR DEATH.
DEPENDING ON HOW PLEDGES PERFORM AFTERWARDS, THEY ARE PROMOTED JUST LIKE ANY OTHER SOLDIER AND SOMETIMES EVEN PUT IN CHARGE OF OTHERS.
WE ARE AN ARMY THAT HAS LEARNED FROM THE KUSHAN AND REFINED ITSELF. THE KUSHAN COMMAND MEN ONLY BY FEAR, BUT WE MAKE USE OF BOTH FEAR AND INCENTIVE.
THAT'S ABSURD!!
LETTING PREVIOUS ENEMIES COMMAND OUR MEN SO READILY...!
THE KUSHAN ARE NOT NECESSARILY MONOLITHIC.
THEY ARE AN EMPIRE COMPRISING ONE ROYAL HOUSE OVER VARIOUS LESSER HOUSES...
...AND MANY GRUDGES EXIST AMONG THEM.
BUT... WHAT ABOUT THE FEELINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF MIDLAND?!
CITIES... HOUSES... THE BITTERNESS OF THOSE WITH SLAIN PARENTS AND BROTHERS...!!
THUS OUR REASON FOR EXPOSING THEM TO THE BRUNT OF BATTLE THREE TIMES. OUR BITTER-NESS DOES NOT SOON VANISH, BUT THEIR OFFENSES ARE JUDGED.
AND MORE THAN ANYTHING, PUTTING THEM IN HARM'S WAY ON THE FRONT LINES MEANS WE CAN SURELY REDUCE CASUALTIES AMONG OUR BRETHREN. THUS, LESS TEARS SHED BY OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

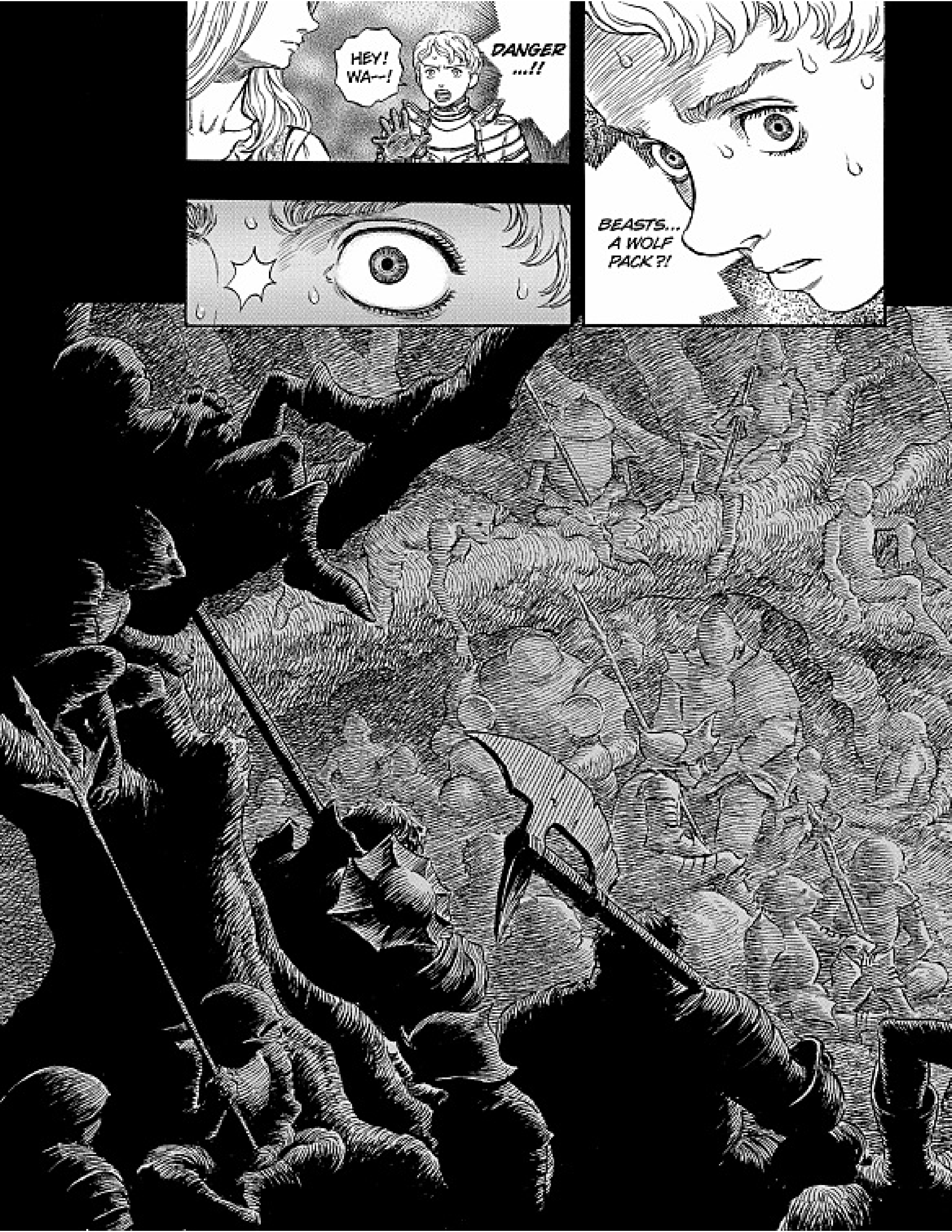


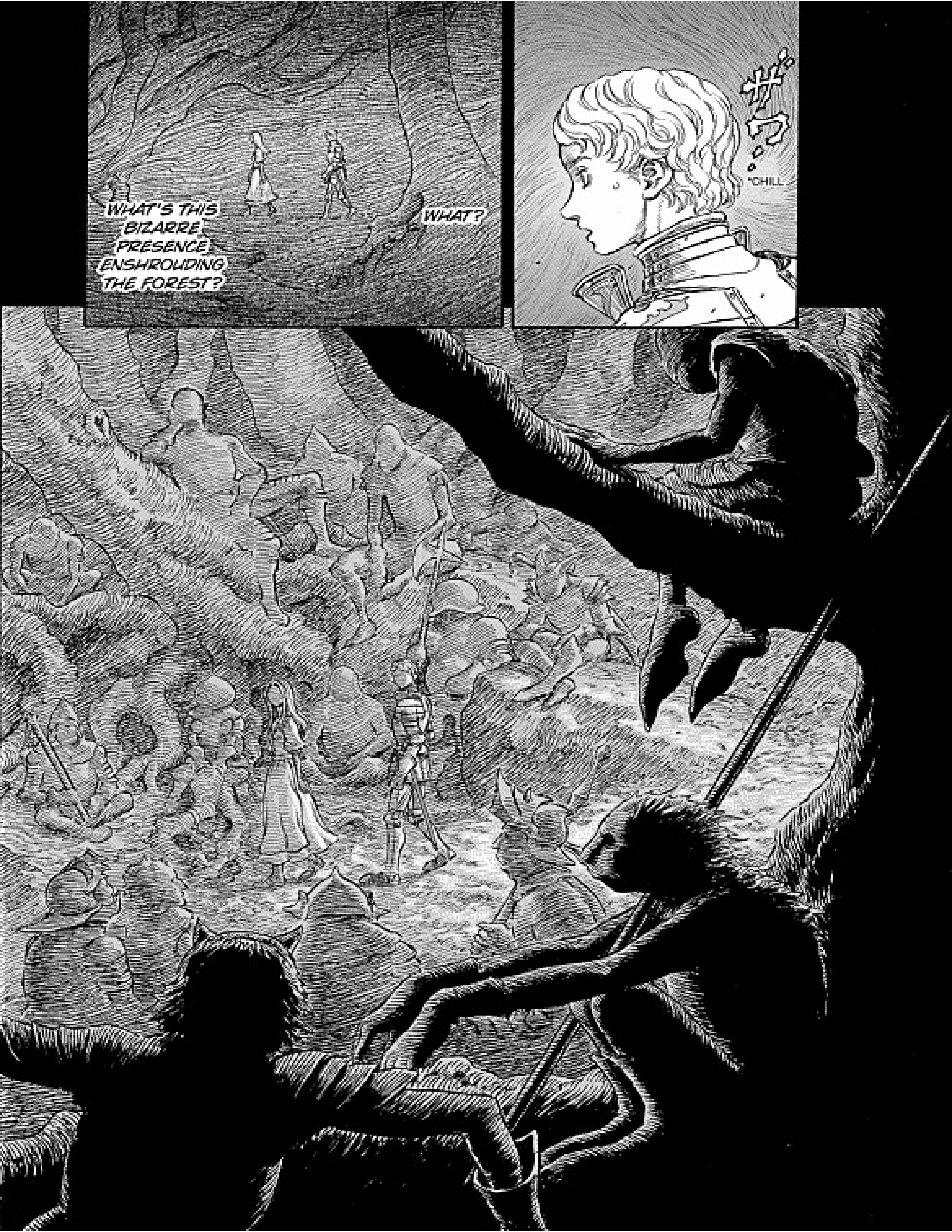
I SEE YOUR LOGIC, BUT I CAN'T ABIDE IT!
RIDING STIRRUP TO STIRRUP WITH THE ENEMIES WHO STOLE MY HOMELAND...! MY FAMILY ...!
THOUGH TWO PEOPLE HOLD A GRUDGE, IN THE END THEY ARE THE SAME... HUMAN.
I EXPECT, IF YOU MAKE YOUR PLACE IN THIS BAND...
...YOU WILL COME TO KNOW THAT YOUR FORMER ENEMIES ARE NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM YOU.
YOU'LL ADJUST.
*HM
......
WHO'S THAT KNIGHT?
SIR LOCUS.
HE'S IN CHARGE OF TRAINING NEW RECRUITS.
LOCUS ...?!
YOU DON'T MEAN THE MOONLIGHT KNIGHT, LOCUS?!
HMHM ...
I KNEW YOU'D BE SURPRISED. EVERY WARRIOR IS.



HE'S THE MIGHTIEST KNIGHT, BOASTING AN UNDEFEATED RECORD IN COUNTLESS DUELS AND CONTESTS WHILE CONTINUING HIS PEREGRINATION, NEVER SETTLING ON ANY ONE MASTER.
ALL SONS OF WARRIORS GROW UP HEARING BEDTIME STORIES ABOUT HIS TALES OF HEROISM.
OTHERS ?
*EHEE
WHY IS A LIVING LEGEND LIKE HIM HERE...?
THERE ARE OTHER FAMOUS PEOPLE HERE YOU LIKELY KNOW OF.
I THINK THERE ARE THINGS THAT WILL SURPRISE YOU EVEN FURTHER.
AS SIR LOCUS SAYS...
...EVEN FAR MORE THAN THE KUSHAN.


THIS WAY'S A SHORT-CUT.
WATCH YOUR STEP.
IT'S DIM IN HERE.
OOP!
......
YO!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
MM-HM.
NO...
AND IT SEEMS LIKE SHE KEEPS READING MY MIND... OR IS IT MY IMAGINATION?
CAN SHE SEE THROUGH THE DARKNESS?
WHO IS THIS GIRL?
SHOULD I HOLD YOUR HAND?


DANGER ...!!
HEY! WA--!
BEASTS... A WOLF PACK?!


ザワ…
*CHILL
WHAT?
WHAT'S THIS BIZARRE PRESENCE ENSHROUDING THE FOREST?


WHAT THE... ?!



YOU SAW THEM IN BATTLE TODAY TOO, DIDN'T YOU?
THEY'RE ALL CALLED WAR DEMONS.
WAR DEMONS ...!!
......
*FX: HEEEERN
*FX: FLINCH
*SHRIP
*KRNCH
*SHRIP


WHMP
!!
THAT'S MUCH BETTER THAN BEFORE.
EARLIER THEY WERE EATING KUSHAN PRISONERS.
...!
EEEK!
!
SONIA!!
Y-YOU'VE COME HERE ALONE AGAIN, GIRL?
I'M NOT ALONE. NOW PUT ME DOWN!

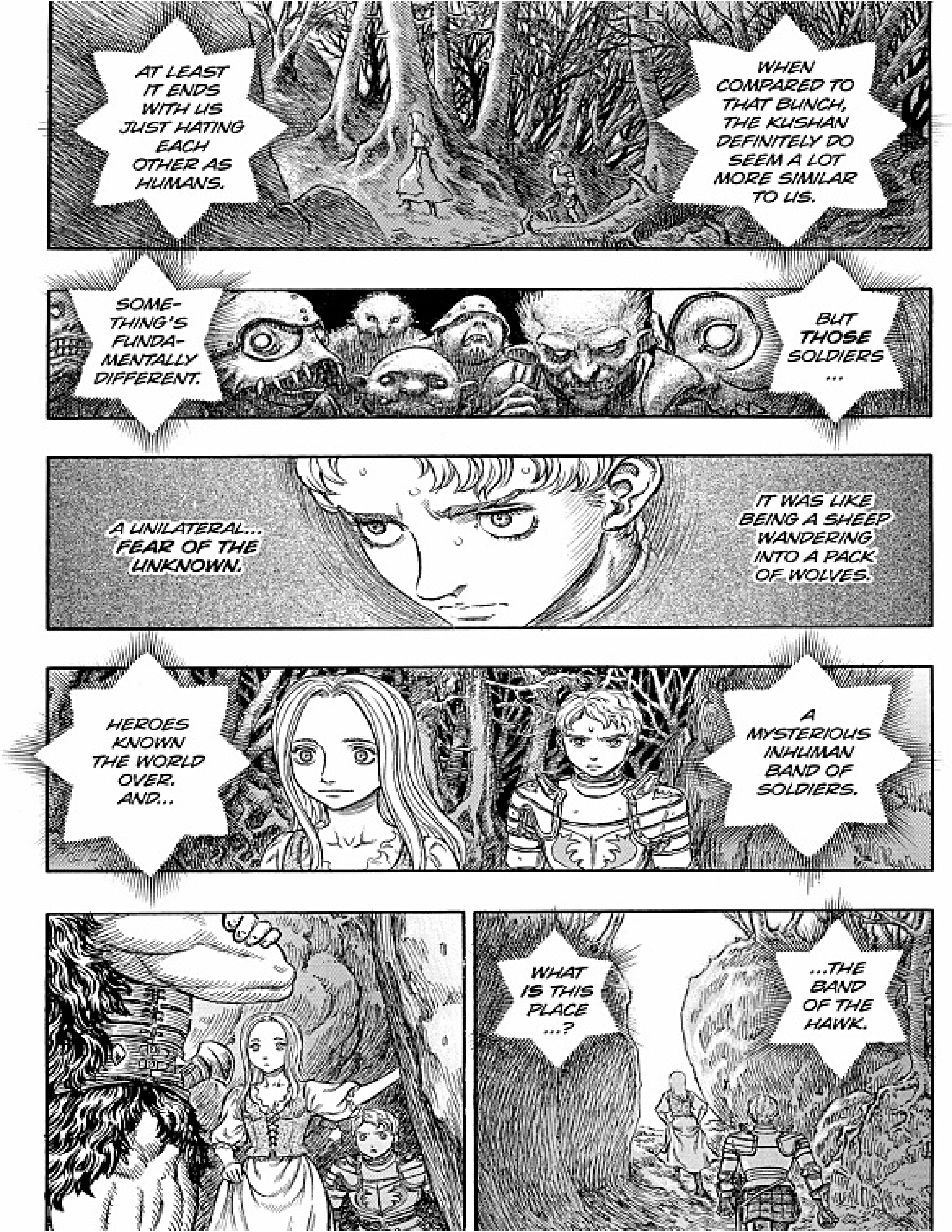

AGHH...!!
JUST PUT ME DOWN ALREADY!
PERVERT!
A-AREN'T YOU SCARED OF US?
YOU'RE AN ODD ONE.
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU DOING?!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF--
I-I HAVEN'T TASTED HUMAN MEAT IN A LONG TIME. YOU'RE A BIT TOO THIN, THOUGH.
I'LL TELL ON YOU TO LORD GRIFFITH. RIGHT HERE AND NOW.
HEE...!
Q-QUIT IT...!


!
GRUNBELD
...!!
*WRNCH
*GYAW!
*FX: TMP


*FX: VNN
*GWOOO
*ZHA
IRVINE...
*FX: DOSH

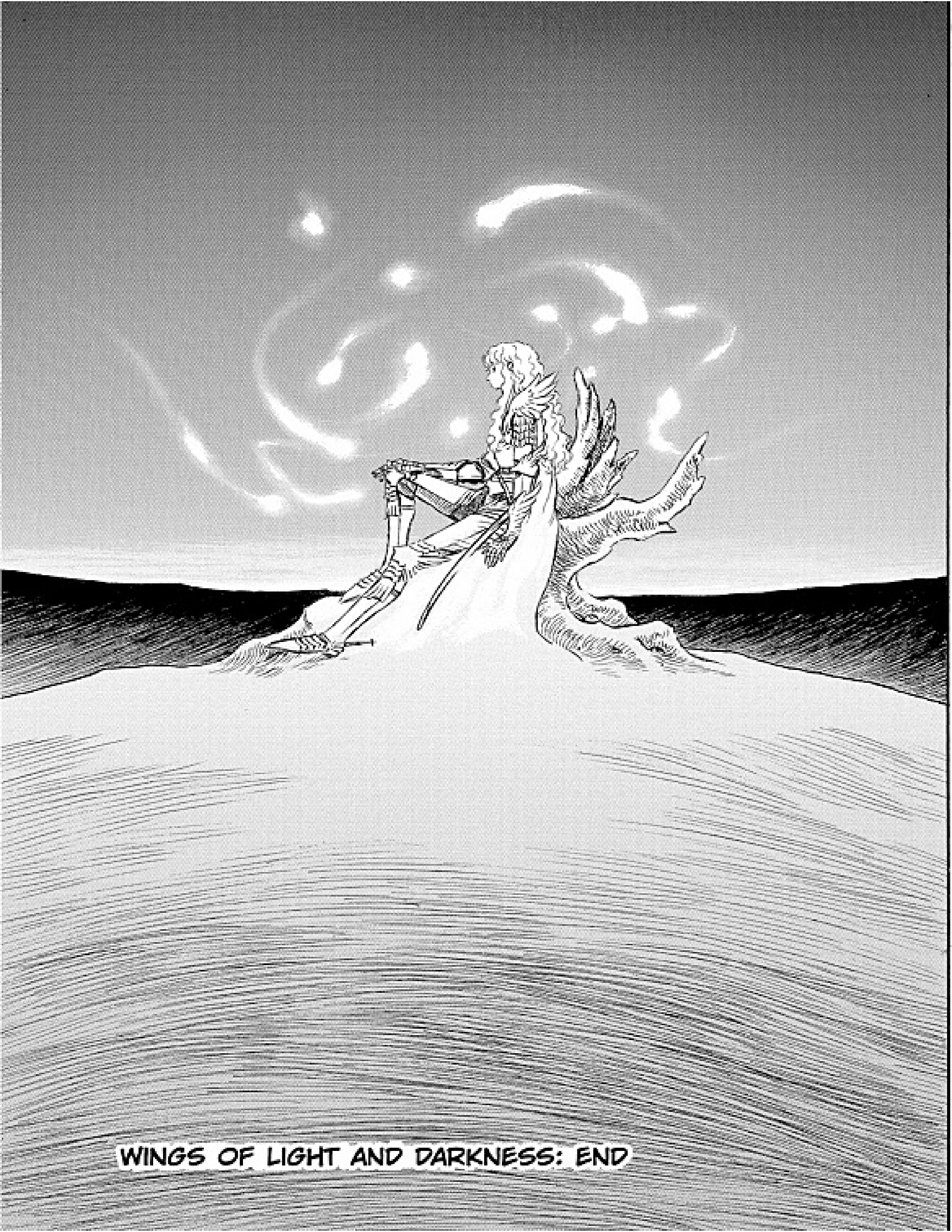

THESE ARE GUESTS OF OUR MASTER.
TOUCH THEM AND YOU WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH ME.
I DISLIKE JOKES.
I-IT WAS A JOKE! I WAS JUST PLAYING...
GRUNBELD. I KNOW THAT NAME...!
THE GIANT HERO FROM A NORTHERN COUNTRY WHO PROTECTED HIS LAND FROM THE CHUDER EMPIRE'S INVASION FOR A DECADE WITH ONLY HIS PERSONAL FORCE OF 3000 SOLDIERS.
HIS FIERY RED HAIR AND REPUTATION FOR MOWING DOWN ENEMIES EARNED HIM THE NICKNAME "GREAT FLAME DRAGON."
I COULD'VE SWORN I HEARD HE DIED IN BATTLE...
THANKS, SIR GRUNBELD.
NOT AT ALL.

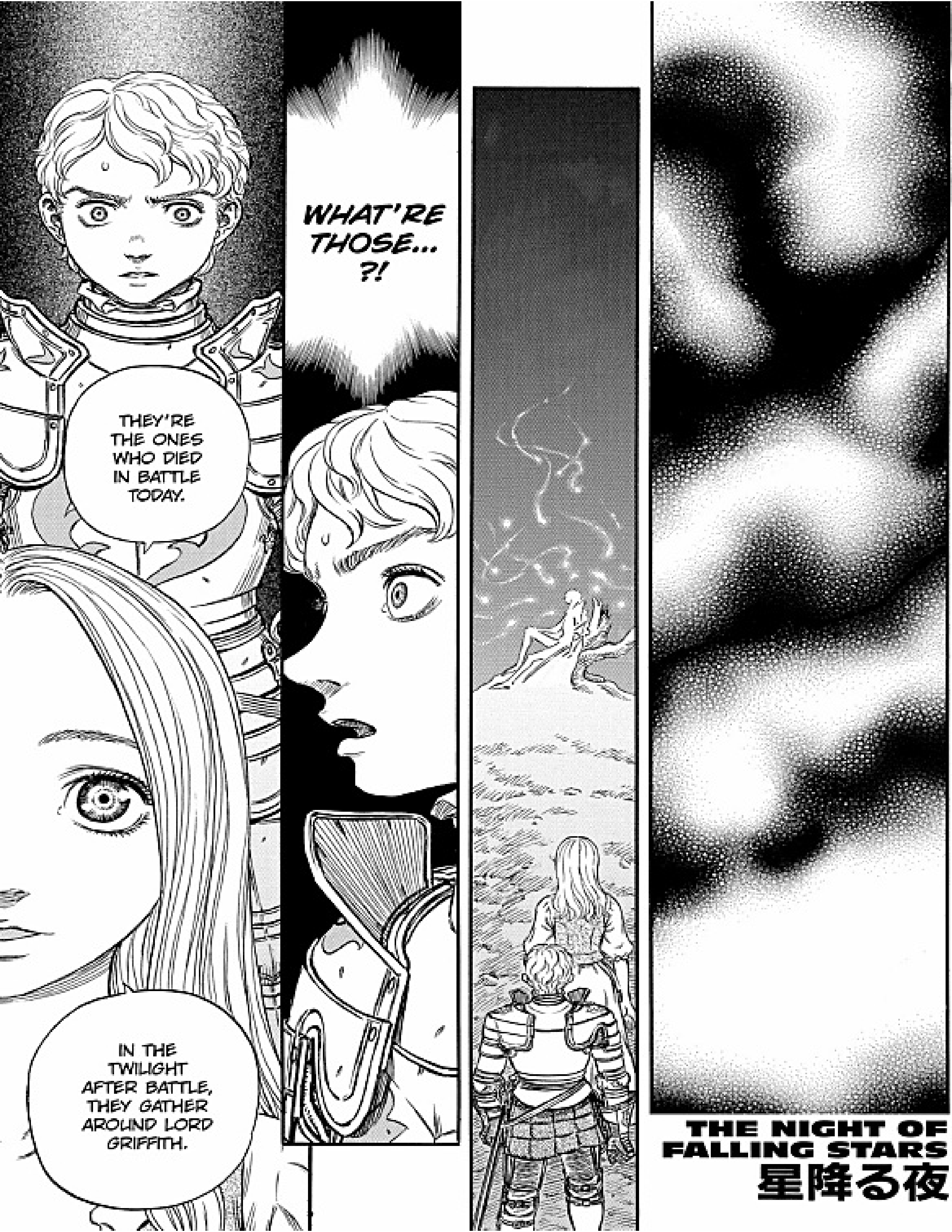

THE HAWKS' MEDIUM ...?
THOUGH YOU ARE THE HAWKS' MEDIUM, TO WALK AROUND HERE WITHOUT A GUARDIAN...
BUT YOU ARE DEFENSELESS, MISS SONIA.
WHAT USE WOULD A GUARD BE AGAINST WAR DEMONS?
THE HAWK AWAITS BEYOND THERE.
OKAY.
THE NEXT TIME YOU COME HERE, PLEASE INFORM ME.
WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY?
HMMM ...
I'M NOT EXACTLY CERTAIN MYSELF.
*FX: OMMMM
MISS SONIA...
*FX: TURN
NEXT TIME I'LL BRING YOU A CORPSE, OUR SECRET.
*FX: WHISPER
R-REALLY? I'D LIKE A WOMAN...
ARE THEY...
... HUMAN ?
AHH...
YOU'LL UNDER-STAND EVENTU-ALLY.

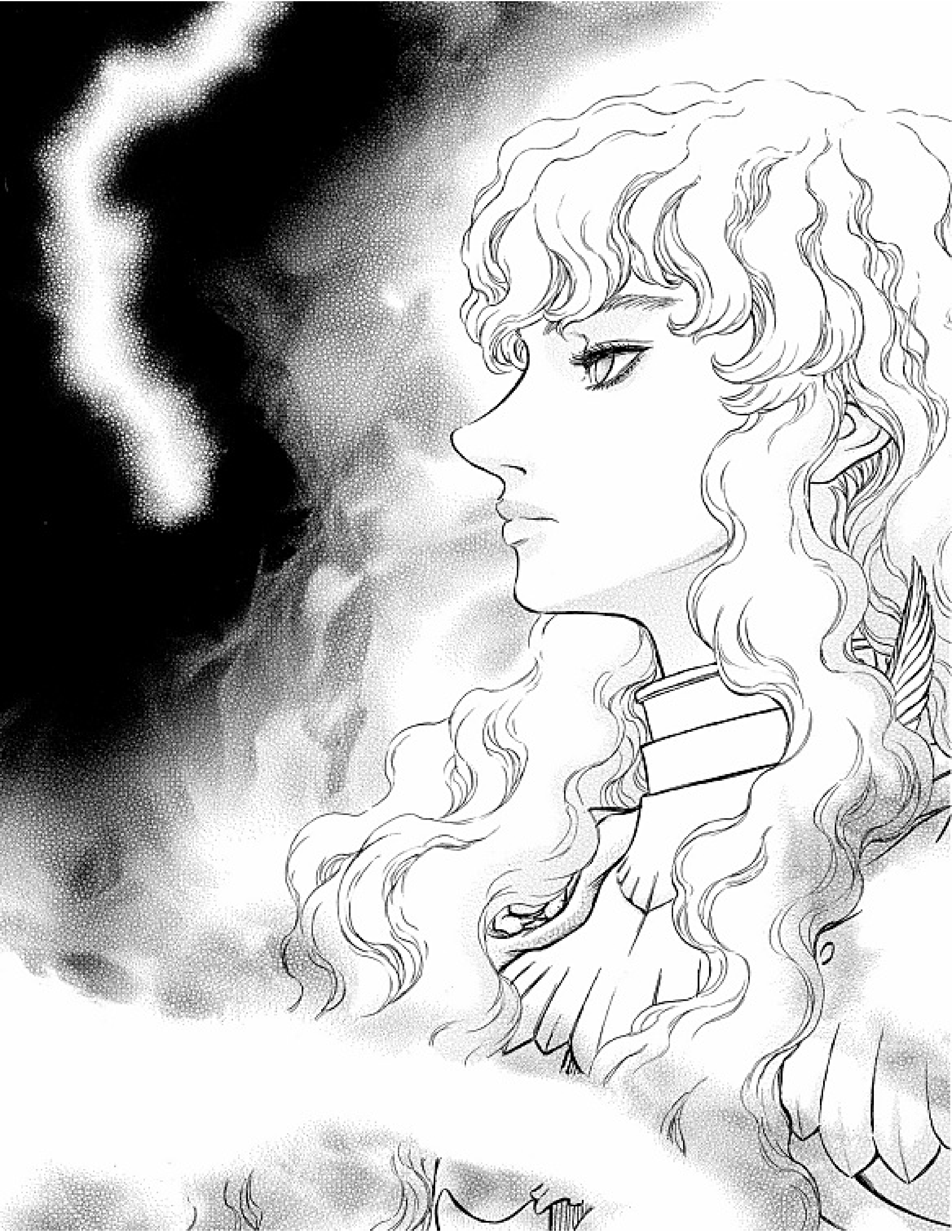

AT LEAST IT ENDS WITH US JUST HATING EACH OTHER AS HUMANS.
WHEN COMPARED TO THAT BUNCH, THE KUSHAN DEFINITELY DO SEEM A LOT MORE SIMILAR TO US.
SOME-THING'S FUNDA-MENTALLY DIFFERENT.
BUT THOSE SOLDIERS ...
A UNILATERAL... FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN.
IT WAS LIKE BEING A SHEEP WANDERING INTO A PACK OF WOLVES.
HEROES KNOWN THE WORLD OVER. AND...
A MYSTERIOUS INHUMAN BAND OF SOLDIERS.
WHAT IS THIS PLACE ...?
...THE BAND OF THE HAWK.



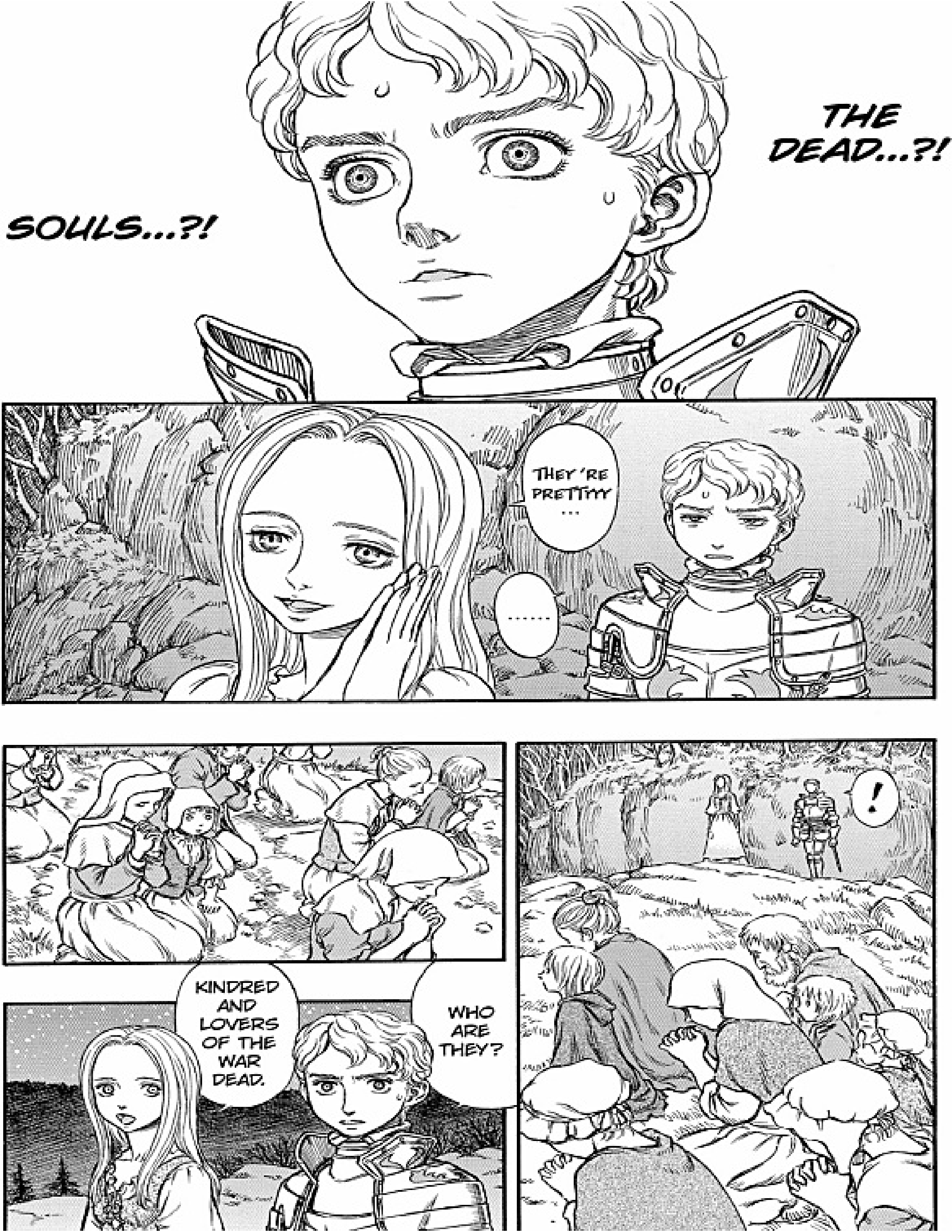
......
*FX: GULP
...
I HAVE BROUGHT LORD GRIFFITH'S GUEST.

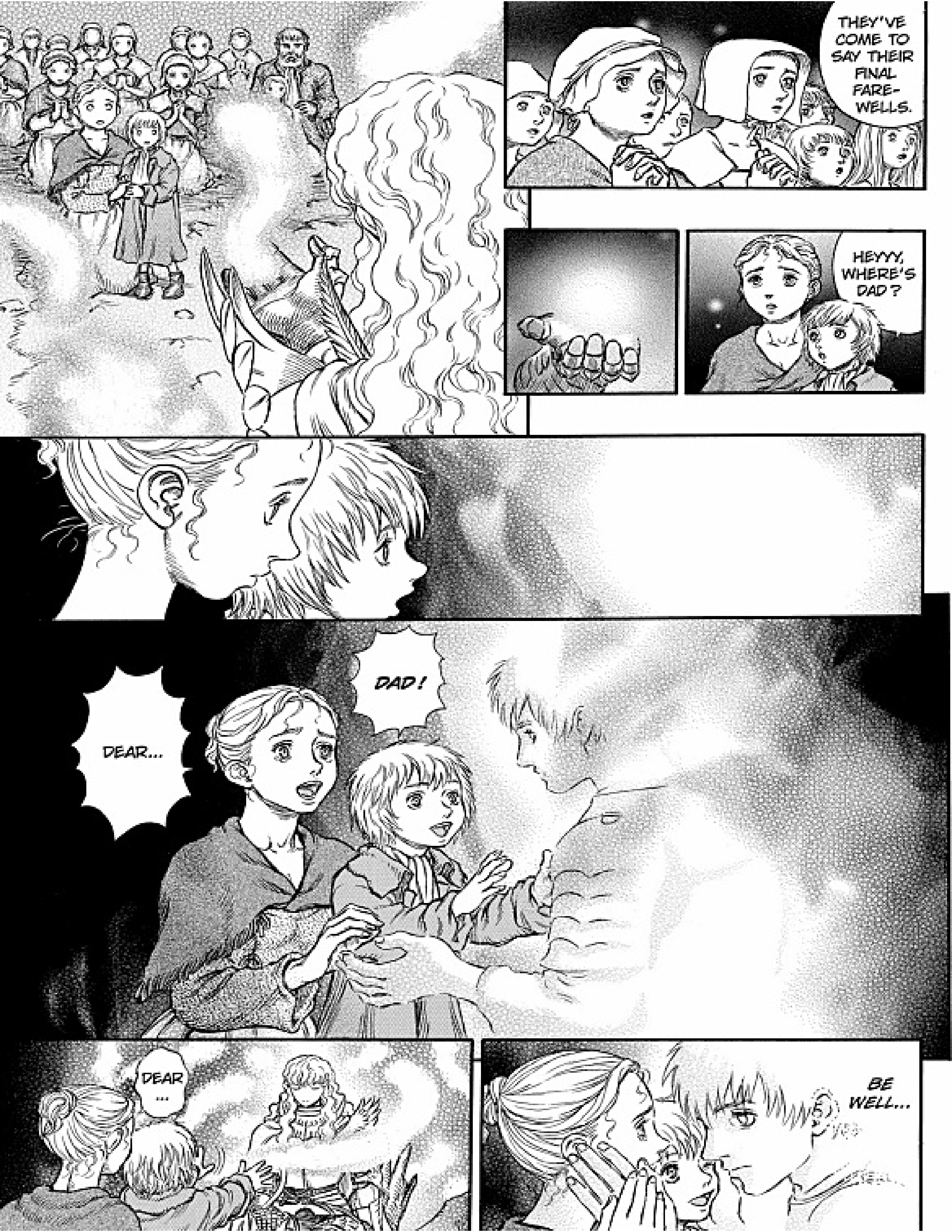

WINGS OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS: END


THE NIGHT OF FALLING STARS
星降る夜
WHAT'RE THOSE... ?!
THEY'RE THE ONES WHO DIED IN BATTLE TODAY.
IN THE TWILIGHT AFTER BATTLE, THEY GATHER AROUND LORD GRIFFITH.

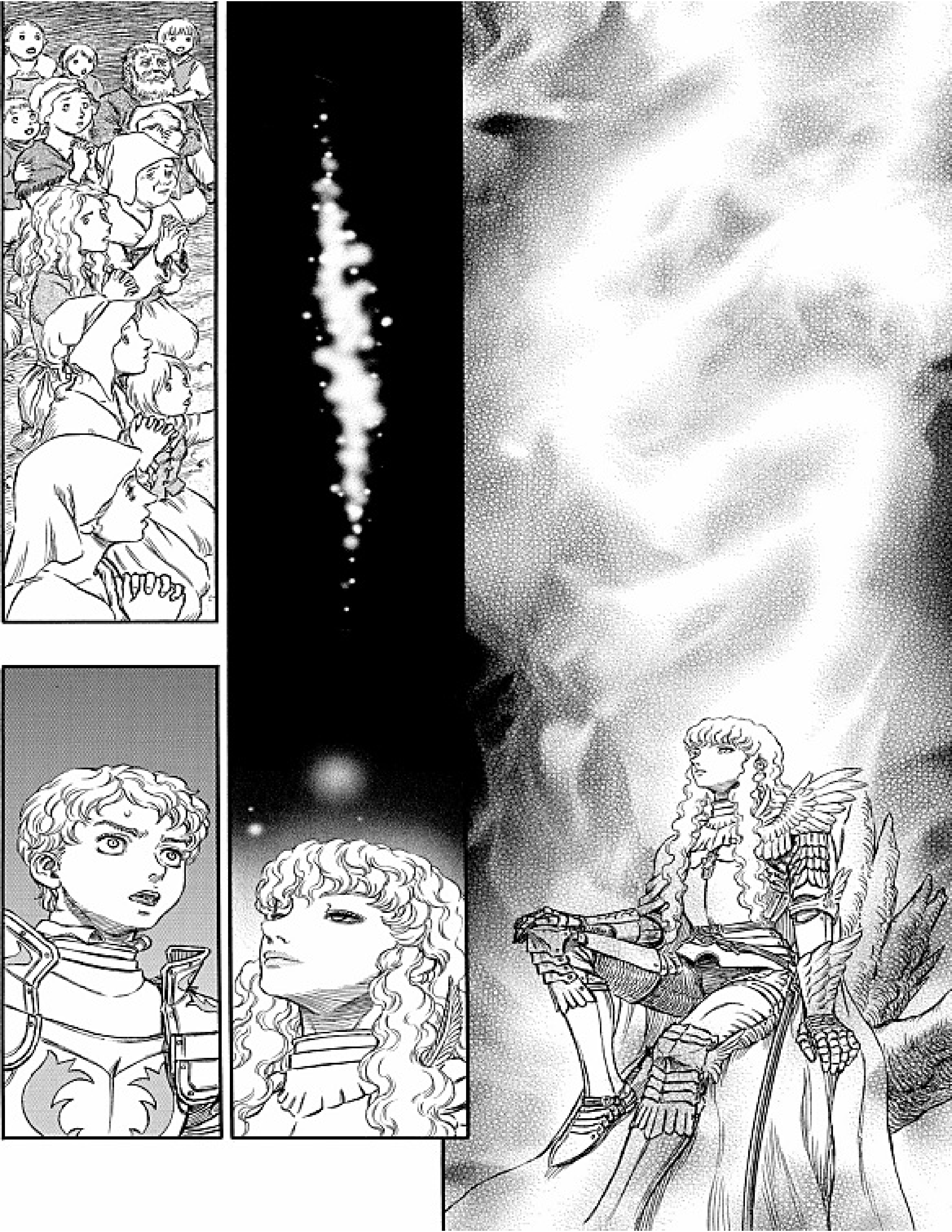





THE DEAD...?!
SOULS...?!
THEY'RE PRETTYYY ...
......
!
WHO ARE THEY?
KINDRED AND LOVERS OF THE WAR DEAD.



THEY'VE COME TO SAY THEIR FINAL FARE-WELLS.
HEYYY, WHERE'S DAD ?
DAD !
DEAR...
DEAR ...
BE WELL...

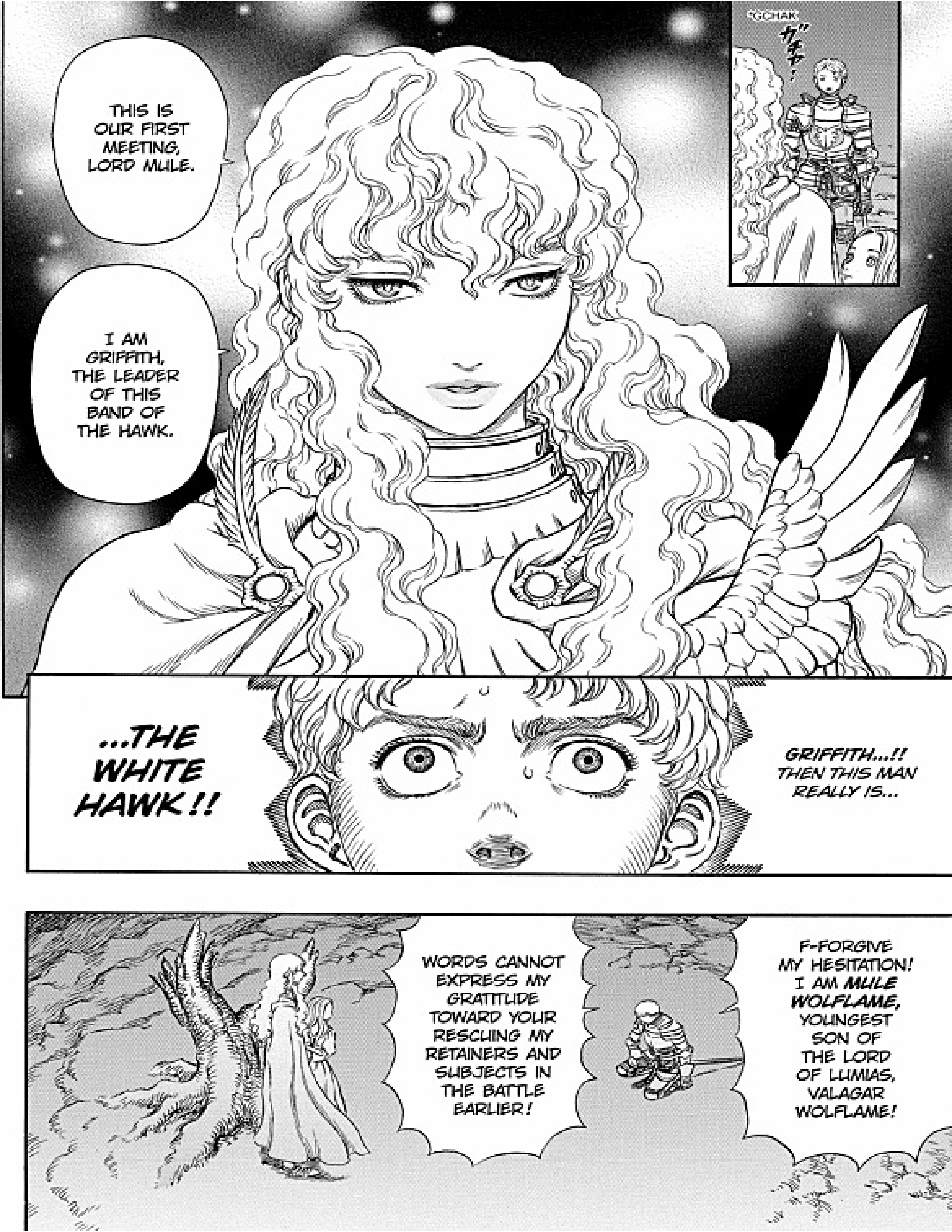




IT'S OVER.
ガバッ
*GLOMP
*FX: TMP TMP TMP
タタタ
LORD GRIF-FIIITH!

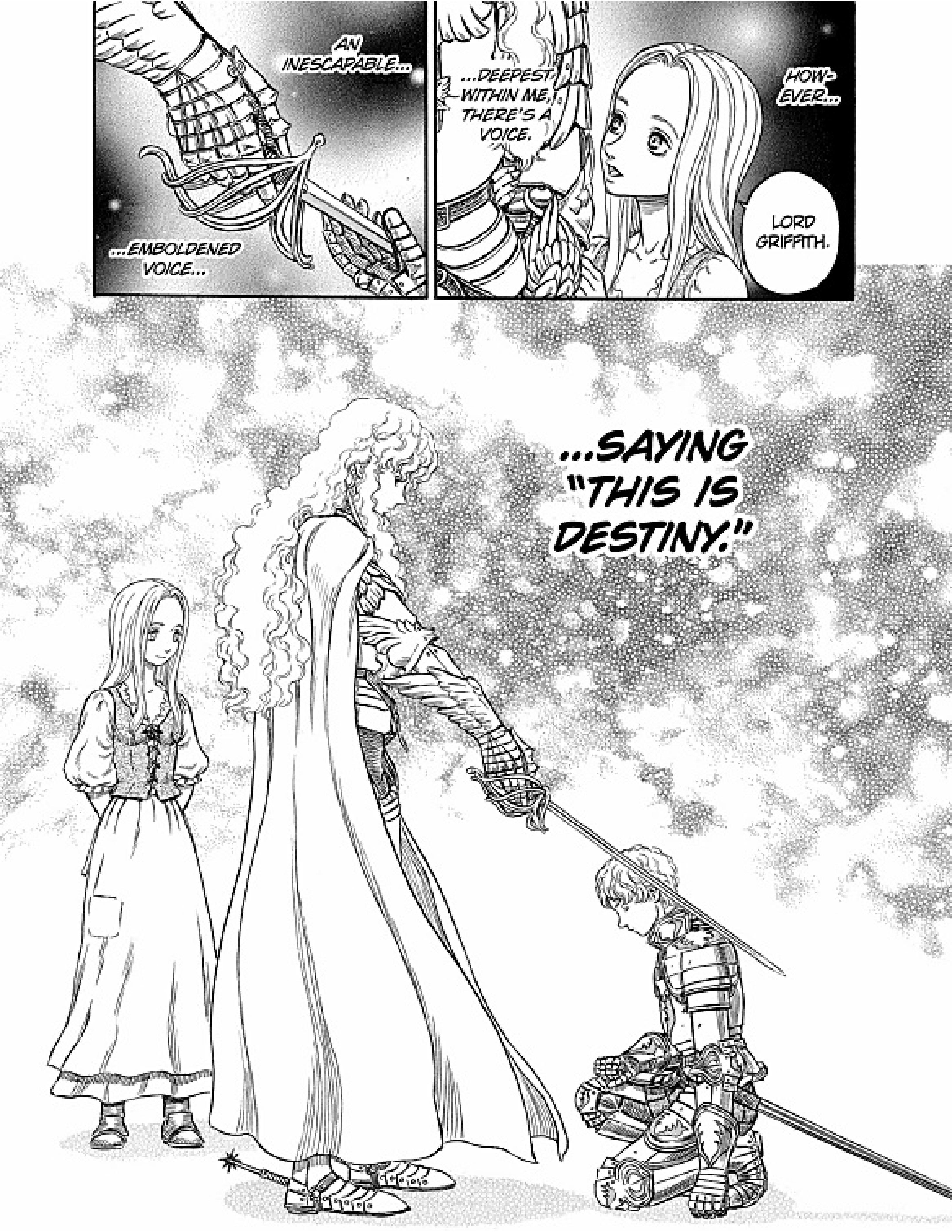

YOU DID WELL TODAY, SONIA.
EHEHE! 'TWAS NOTHIN'.
IT'S LIKE WITH YOU HERE, MY POWER GETS A LOT STRONGER, LORD GRIFFITH.
THAT CLUSTER OF LIGHTS...
WHERE...
...EXACTLY...
...DID IT GO?

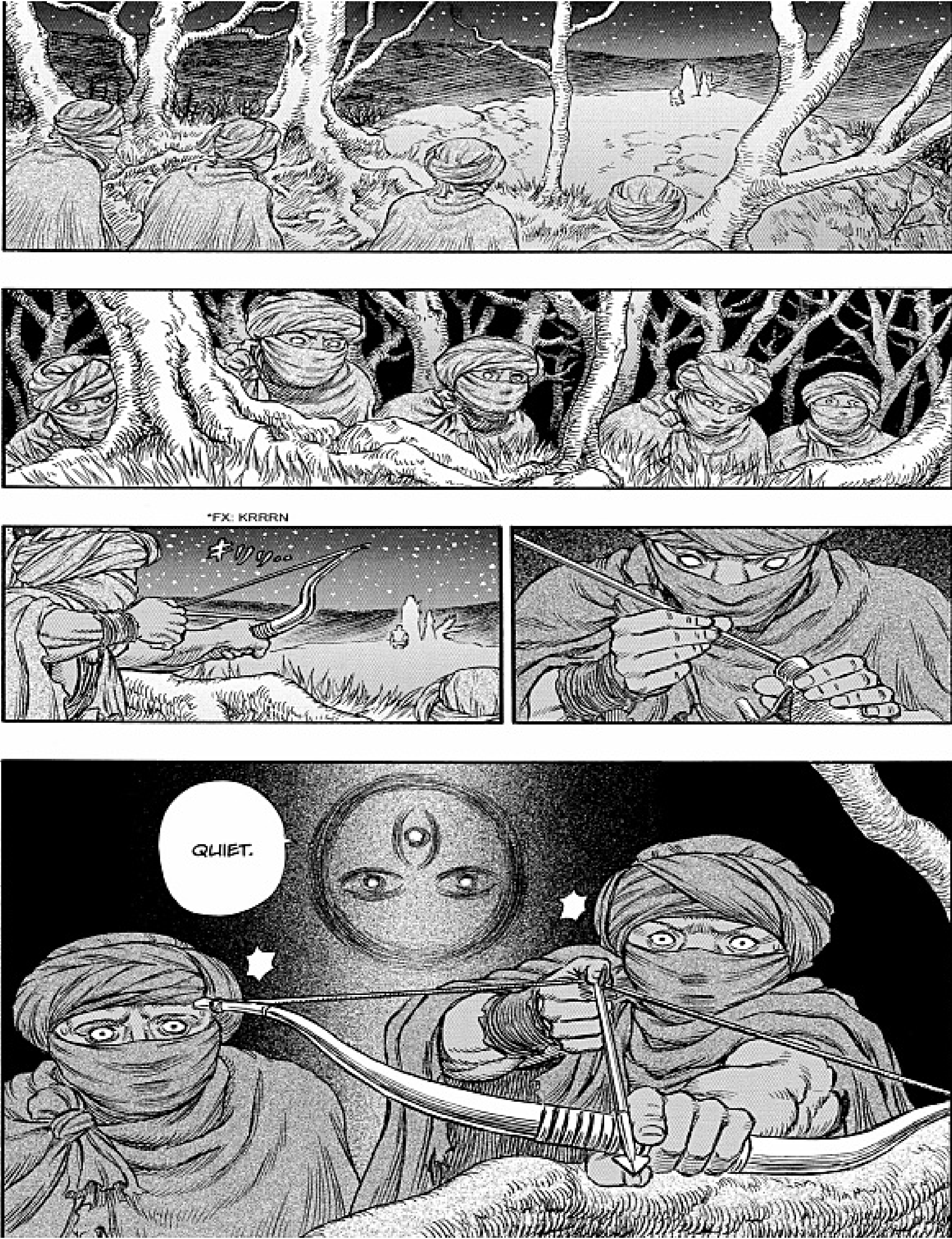

TO WHERE THEY WILL BECOME *ONE.*
BECOME ONE...
WHERE IS THAT...?
HEAVEN ...OR ELSE...
SOME-DAY YOU'LL KNOW.
THAT TIME COMES FOR EVERY-ONE.


*GCHAK
ガチャ!
THIS IS OUR FIRST MEETING, LORD MULE.
I AM GRIFFITH, THE LEADER OF THIS BAND OF THE HAWK.
GRIFFITH...!! THEN THIS MAN REALLY IS...
...THE WHITE HAWK!!
F-FORGIVE MY HESITATION! I AM MULE WOLFLAME, YOUNGEST SON OF THE LORD OF LUMIAS, VALAGAR WOLFLAME!
WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TOWARD YOUR RESCUING MY RETAINERS AND SUBJECTS IN THE BATTLE EARLIER!


I MUST BE THE ONE TO OFFER THANKS. THE PROVISIONS YOU DELIVERED WILL ALLOW US TO FIGHT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.
A VOICE THAT SOUNDS INVIGORATING.
AS A WAR HERO I HAD IMAGINED HIM TO BE A MUSCULAR, GOOD-LOOKING MAN...
W-WE ARE HARDLY WORTHY.
BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A MAN... OR EVEN HUMAN...
*FX: THDUMP THDUMP
ドクン
ドクン
BUT THAT ASIDE, WHAT IS THIS? THESE FEELINGS THAT ROSE UP...
...JUST AS I SET EYES ON HIM?
THIS WELLING UP OF...?
...??


*CHAK
PLEASE, I ASK YOU TO ACCEPT THIS SWORD.
WITH THIS MAN...
...I'VE JUST MET AND WITH WHOM I'VE HARDLY EXCHANGED A WORD?
PLEASE ...
WHAT AM I... DOING...?!


AN INESCAPABLE...
...EMBOLDENED VOICE...
HOW-EVER...
...DEEPEST WITHIN ME, THERE'S A VOICE.
LORD GRIFFITH.
...SAYING "THIS IS DESTINY."

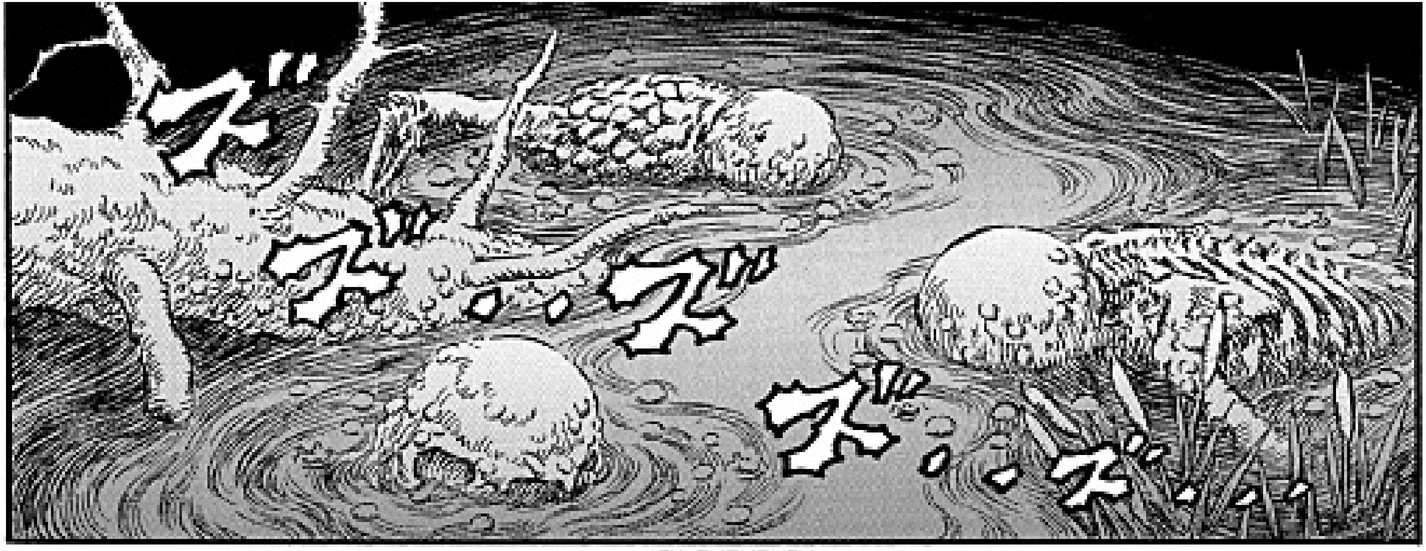

*FX: KRRRN
ギリッ..
QUIET.


YOU MUSTN'T SPOIL THE MOMENT.
*SHHHH
*FX: BOSH
*FX: ZSSH
I KNEW IT BY INSTINCT.
THAT WHAT I HAD SET BEFORE MYSELF WASN'T MERELY ANOTHER WAR TO BE RECORDED IN HISTORY.


...TO THE DOMAIN OF LEGEND.


PERHAPS IT BELONGED...


*FX: BLOP BLOP
THEY'RE COMIN' OUT, ISIDRO!
I GOT IT!
LADY FARNESE!
PLEASE DO NOT LET THAT FIRE DIE!
I... I KNOW THAT!
*FX: REEL
NO, CASCA! YOU MUSTN'T WANDER AROUND!
AUU!
HERE THEY COME!!



*FX: ZMZMZMZM

*FX: GRAHHHHH

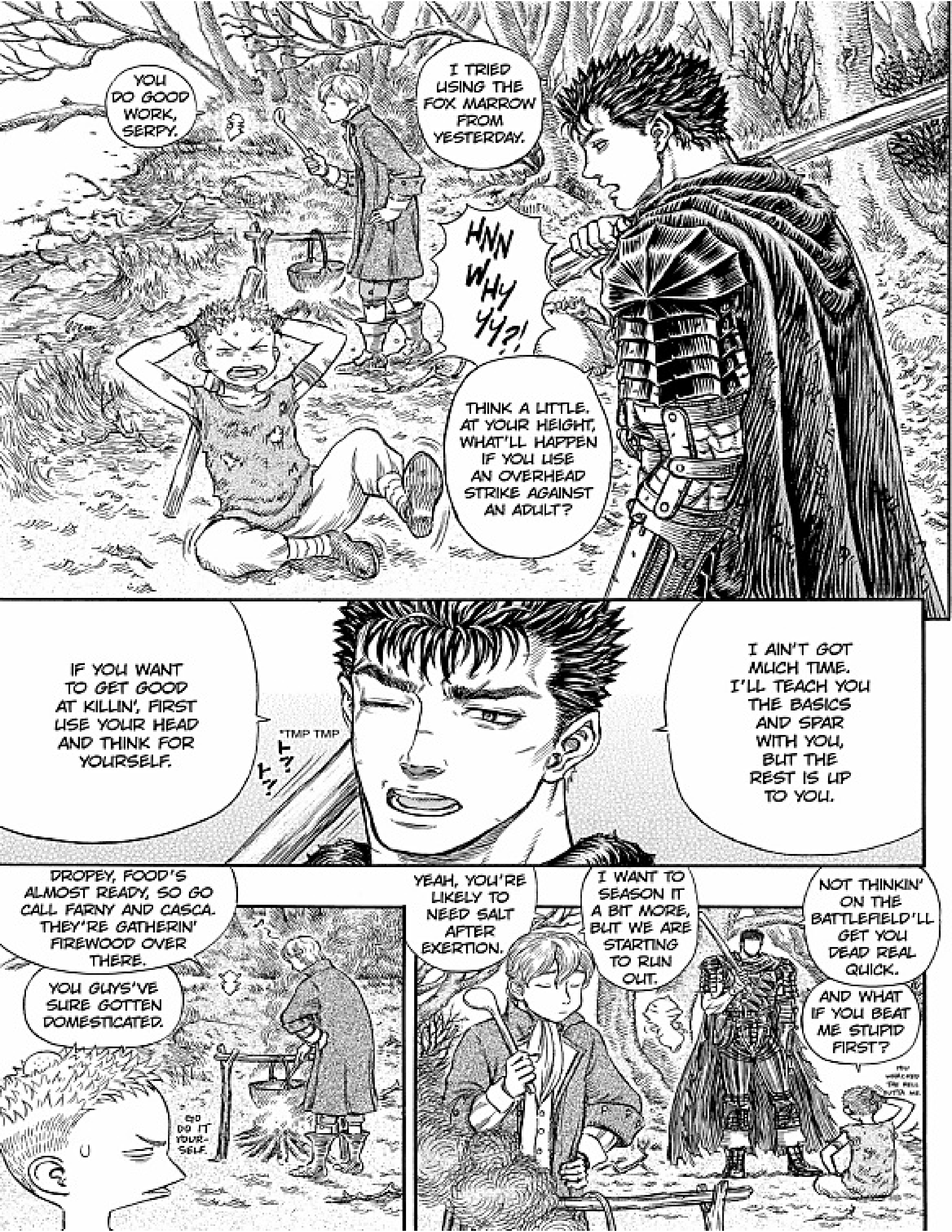



NOW YOU SHALL TEACH THEM THE POWER OF ELF DIMENSION STYLE!
NO, I SHAN'T.



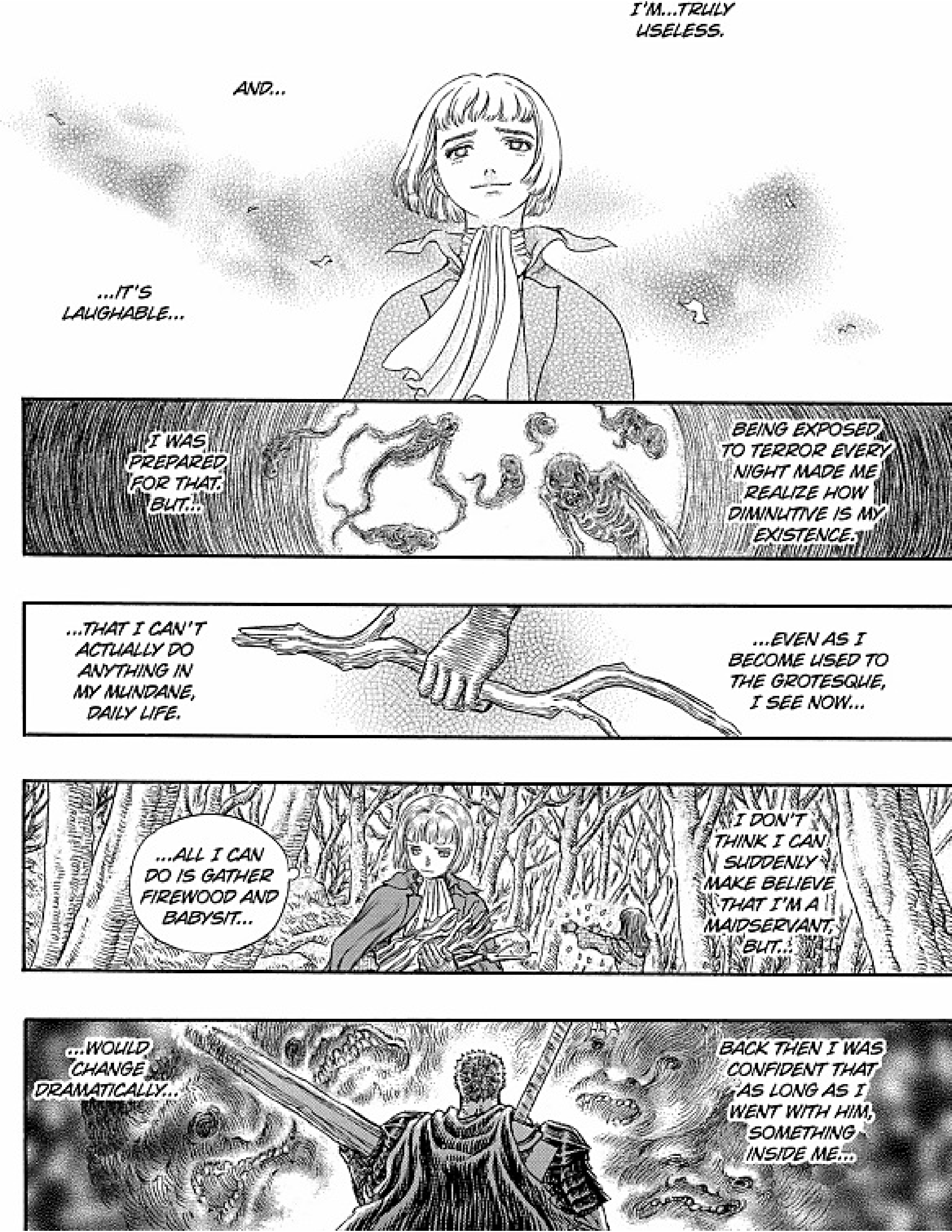
*FX: HHHHH
グッ..
*FX: SQUEEZE
スチャ。。
*POSE
LIKE A BABY
嬰児の如く
*ZERYAHHH


すぱあああんん!!
*WHAAACK!!
MMM, GOOD!
I AM MUCH OBLIGED.
ずず…
*SLRRP


I TRIED USING THE FOX MARROW FROM YESTERDAY.
YOU DO GOOD WORK, SERPY.
HNN WHYYY?!
THINK A LITTLE. AT YOUR HEIGHT, WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF YOU USE AN OVERHEAD STRIKE AGAINST AN ADULT?
I AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME. I'LL TEACH YOU THE BASICS AND SPAR WITH YOU, BUT THE REST IS UP TO YOU.
*TMP TMP
IF YOU WANT TO GET GOOD AT KILLIN', FIRST USE YOUR HEAD AND THINK FOR YOURSELF.
NOT THINKIN' ON THE BATTLEFIELD'LL GET YOU DEAD REAL QUICK.
AND WHAT IF YOU BEAT ME STUPID FIRST?
I WANT TO SEASON IT A BIT MORE, BUT WE ARE STARTING TO RUN OUT.
YEAH, YOU'RE LIKELY TO NEED SALT AFTER EXERTION.
DROPEY, FOOD'S ALMOST READY, SO GO CALL FARNY AND CASCA. THEY'RE GATHERIN' FIREWOOD OVER THERE.
GO DO IT YOURSELF.
YOU GUYS'VE SURE GOTTEN DOMESTICATED.


*KSAAA
......
LADY FARNESE, THESE...
MUSH-ROOMS. I FOUND THEM EARLIER.
THESE ARE POISONOUS. YOU CANNOT EAT THEM!
THIS ONE'S A WARAITAKE.
I-IS THAT SO?
NOT TO WORRY, I WILL TAKE OVER...
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE.
*FX: SEEEIZE
*FX: HIC HIC HIC
*FX: VMMMM
THAT'S THE WAY. RUB IT HARD AGAINST THE ROCK.
R-RIGHT.
*SCRUB SCRUB
AGHHH!! MY BEST SHIRT!!
*TATTER
I WILL DO THE REST.
...

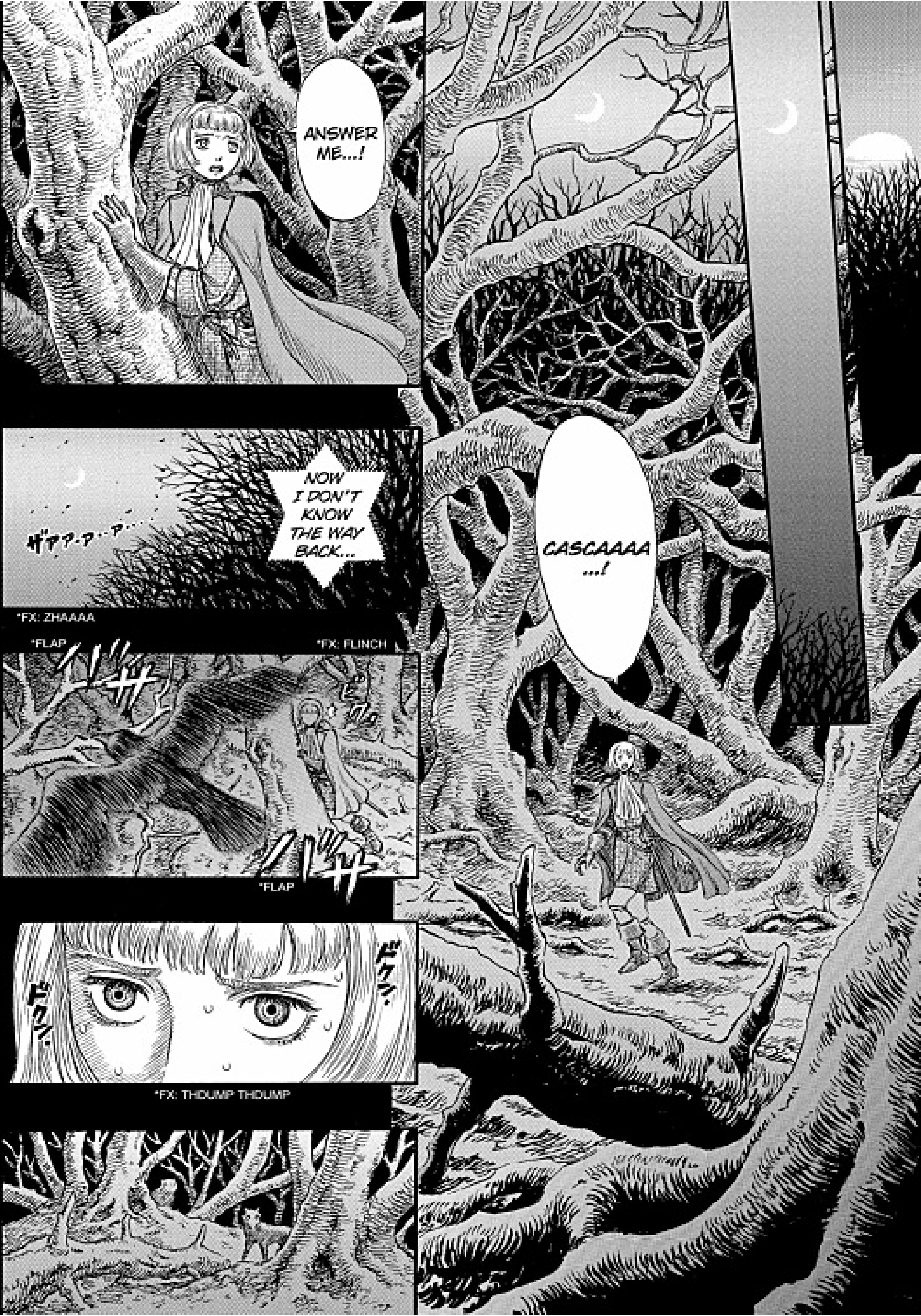

*FX: BAOHHHH
*FX: FWSSH
YOWWWW!
WHY'M I THE ONLY ONE?!
AH ...
HE'S ON FIRE...
UWAHHH!!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
FORGET IT-- YOU JUST CONCENTRATE ON CASCA AND THE FIRE !!
*HHH

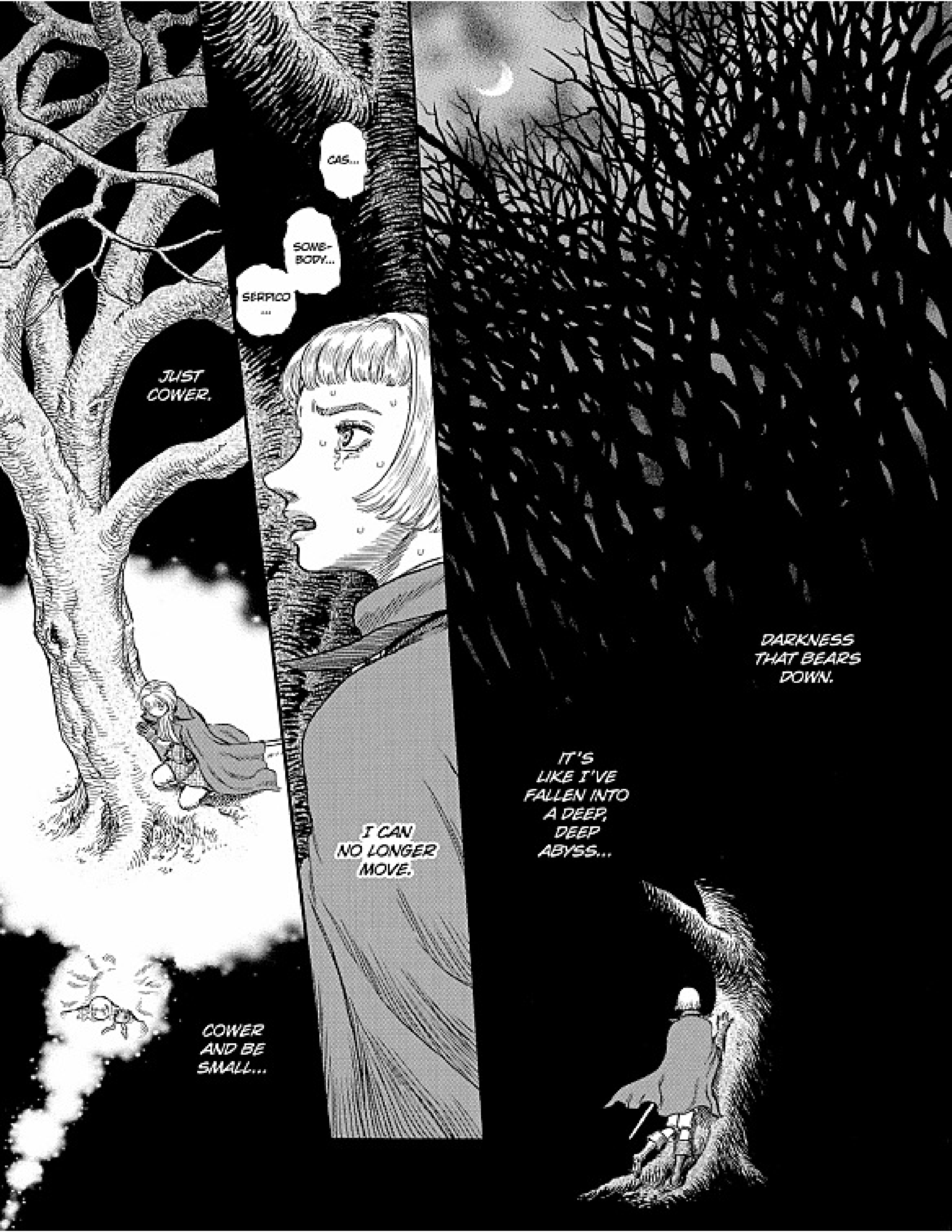

I'M...TRULY USELESS.
AND...
...IT'S LAUGHABLE...
BEING EXPOSED TO TERROR EVERY NIGHT MADE ME REALIZE HOW DIMINUTIVE IS MY EXISTENCE.
I WAS PREPARED FOR THAT. BUT...
...EVEN AS I BECOME USED TO THE GROTESQUE, I SEE NOW...
...THAT I CAN'T ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING IN MY MUNDANE, DAILY LIFE.
I DON'T THINK I CAN SUDDENLY MAKE BELIEVE THAT I'M A MAIDSERVANT, BUT...
...ALL I CAN DO IS GATHER FIREWOOD AND BABYSIT...
BACK THEN I WAS CONFIDENT THAT AS LONG AS I WENT WITH HIM, SOMETHING INSIDE ME...
...WOULD CHANGE DRAMATICALLY...


I APOLOGIZE.
I DID SOME TERRIBLY CRUEL THINGS TO YOU...
......
*FX: ZHAAA
...AND OPPRESS ANOTHER IS UNDERSTANDABLE, UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS...
THAT LOOKS LIKE FUN. MAY I?
WANTING TO DECORATE YOURSELF MAJESTICALLY...
I HAVE BEEN...
...SO SMALL.


*FX: SHA
*FX: SNF SNF
...
HNN ...
CASCA, PLEASE WAIT HERE A MINUTE.
*SMP
THAT'S ODD.
COME HERE!
HUH ?
...I CAN HELP WITH FOOD...
THIS WAY...
*FX: SFF SFF
I'D BETTER HEAD BACK... THE SUN IS SETTING.
OH, WELL ...

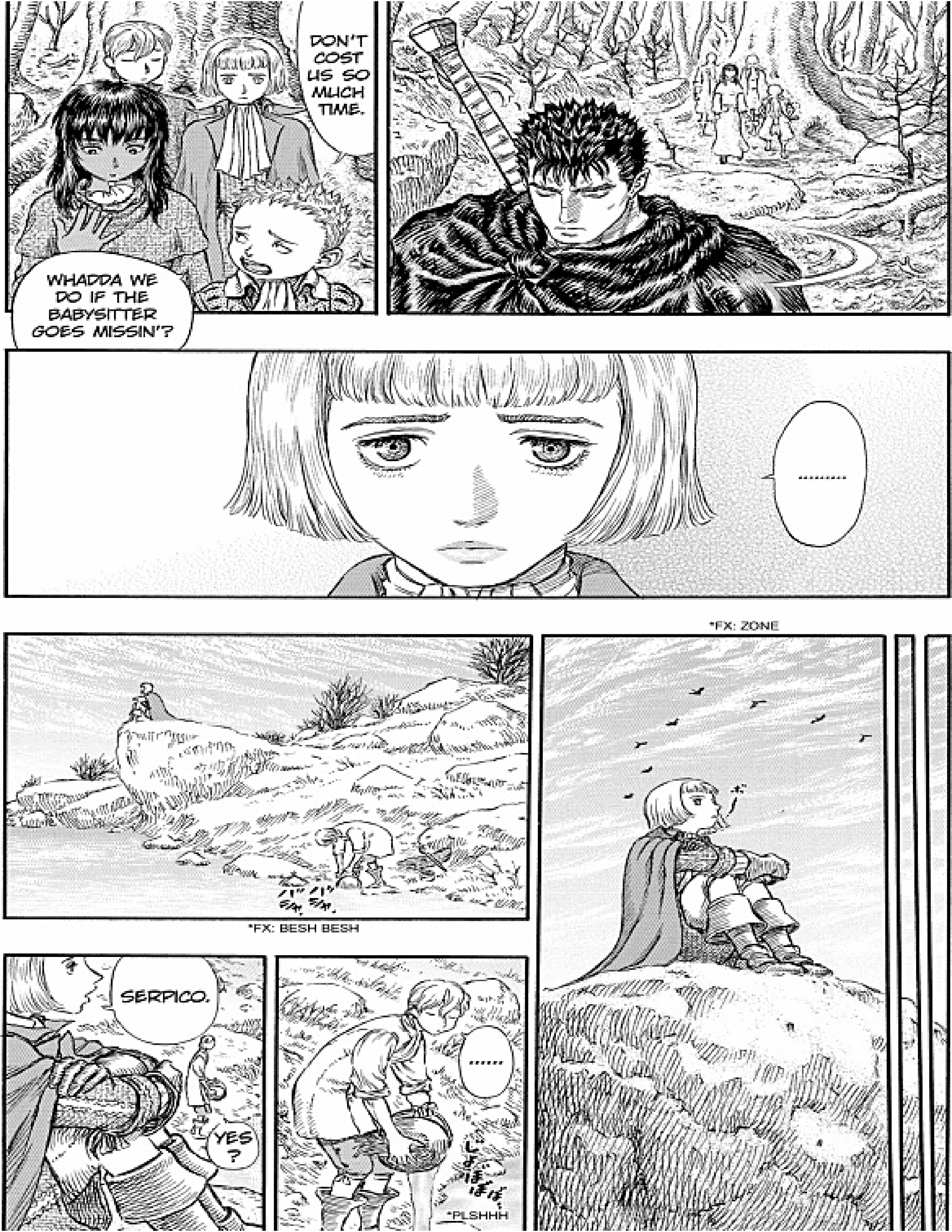

LET US RETURN, CASCA.
OKAY.
....
....
CASCA ...?
*FX: THUD
ドサッ
CASCA !!
IF THE SUN SETS BEFORE I--
OH, NO...!!
SHE'S ...
SHE'S MY RESPON-SIBILITY !!

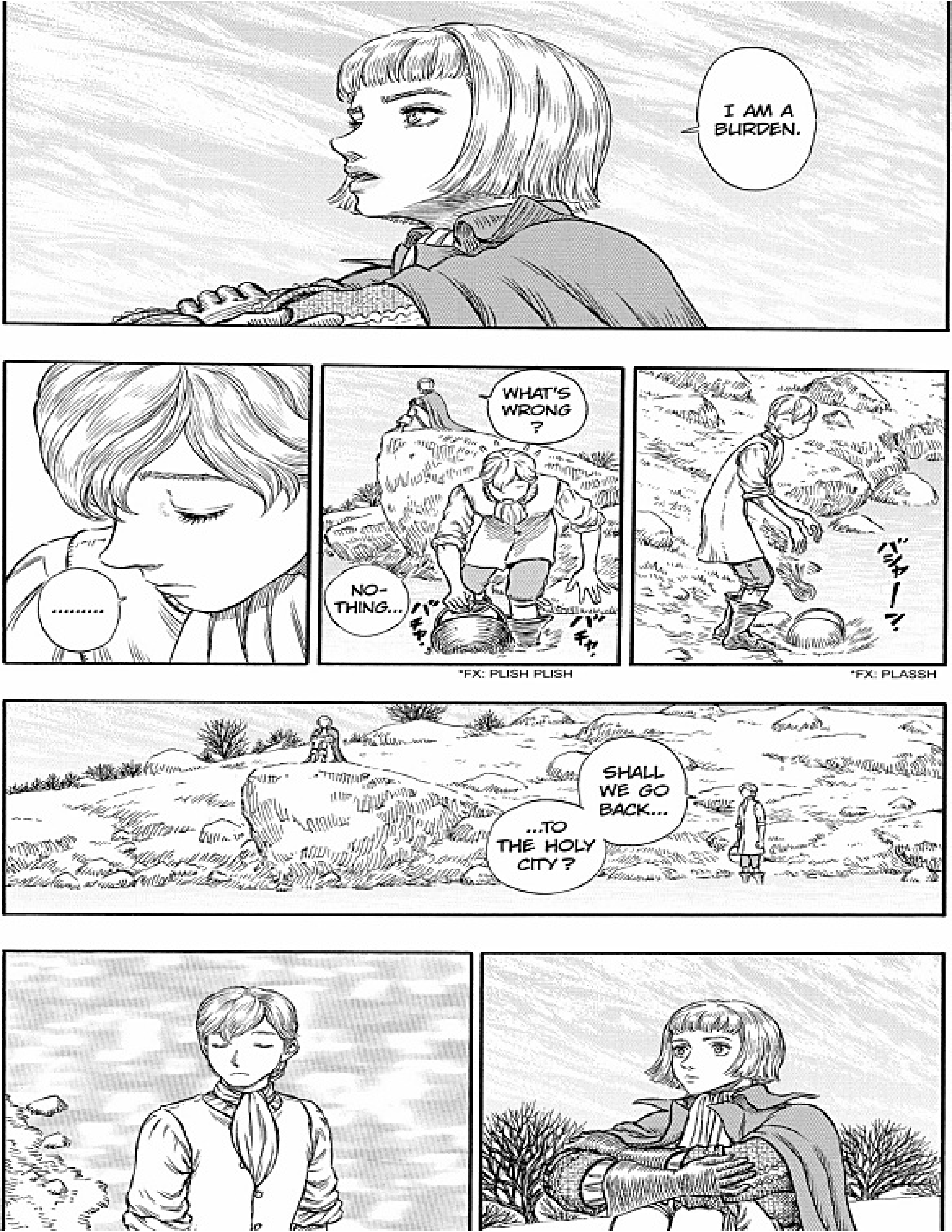

ANSWER ME...!
NOW I DON'T KNOW THE WAY BACK...
ザァァ・ァ・・ァ・・・
*FX: ZHAAAA
*FLAP
*FX: FLINCH
*FLAP
*FX: THDUMP THDUMP
CASCAAAA ...!


DARKNESS THAT BEARS DOWN.
IT'S LIKE I'VE FALLEN INTO A DEEP, DEEP ABYSS...
CAS...
SOME-BODY...
SERPICO ...
I CAN NO LONGER MOVE.
JUST COWER.
COWER AND BE SMALL...


OH!
FOUND HER!
HEYYY!
OVER HERE!
......
LADY FARNESE, YOU'RE SAFE...!!
CAN YOU STAND?
GEEZ, TALK ABOUT CARELESS.
LAST NIGHT WAS NO PICNIC. EVEN SERPICO RAN OFF TO LOOK FOR YOU.
THANKS TO THAT, IT WAS JUST ME AND GUTS STRUGGLIN' TO PROTECT CASCA.


CASCA ...
IS CASCA ALL RIGHT?!
OHH...
MORE OR LESS ...
ALIVE AND KICKIN'.
HUNGER BROUGHT HER BACK RIGHT BEFORE SUPPER.
*FX: FWAHH
SHEESH, NOW WE CAN FINALLY SLEEP.

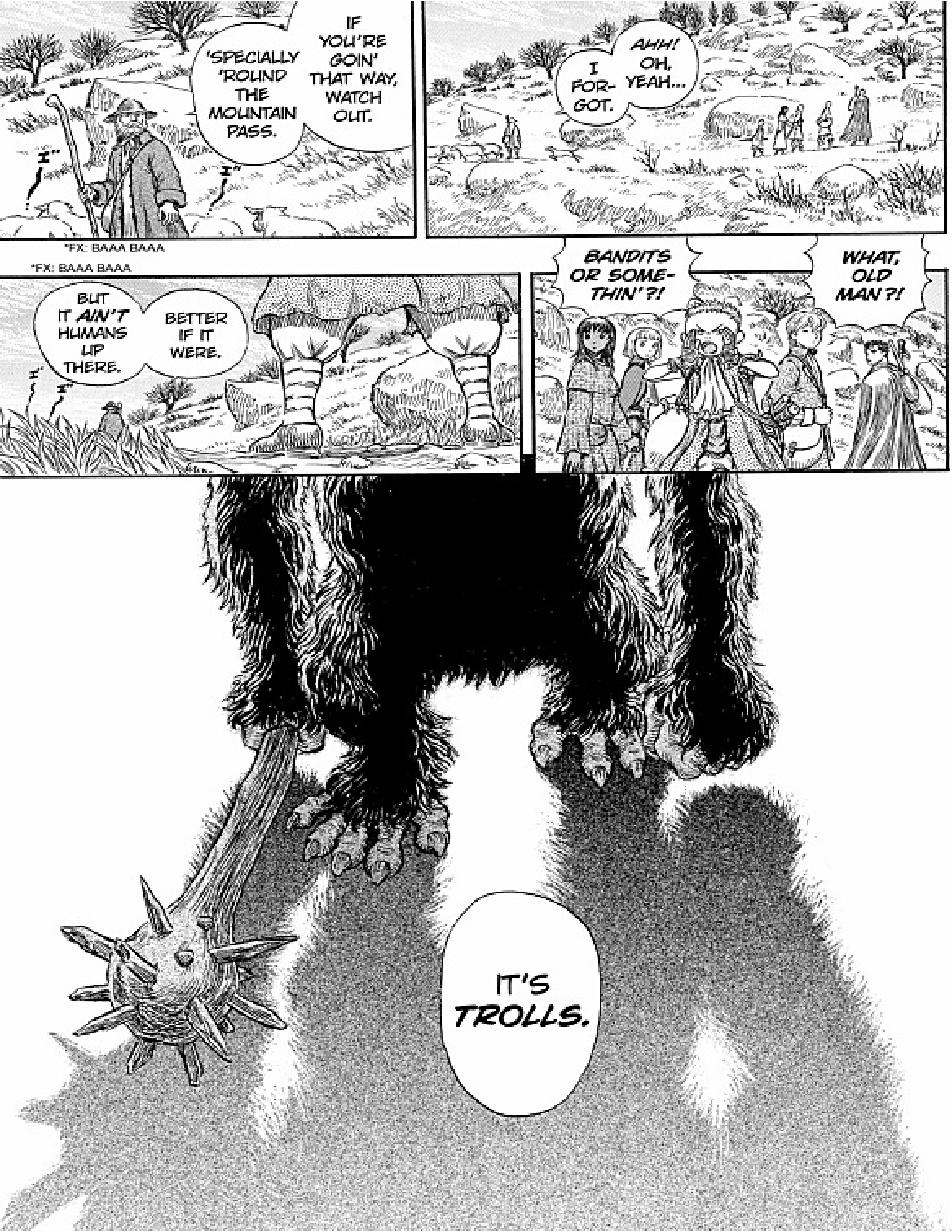

WHADDA WE DO IF THE BABYSITTER GOES MISSIN'?
DON'T COST US SO MUCH TIME.
....
*FX: ZONE
*FX: BESH BESH
SERPICO.
YES?
......
*PLSHHH


I AM A BURDEN.
....
WHAT'S WRONG ?
NO-THING...
*FX: PLISH PLISH
*FX: PLASSH
SHALL WE GO BACK...
...TO THE HOLY CITY ?


I NEVER...
...SAID THAT.
IF I GO BACK...
...I'LL BECOME BURIED AGAIN.
HOWEVER POWERLESS...
...HELPLESS, AND CLUMSY...
*CLUTCH
......
...FOR THE FIRST TIME...
...I'M DISCOVERING MYSELF.


YEAH, IF YOU WANNA REACH THE SEA AND AVOID PEOPLE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, TAKE THIS OLD HIGHWAY OVER THE MOUNTAIN PASS.
*BAAA
*MUMBLE
SHOULD I STRIKE FROM BELOW?
*BAAA
*BAAA
*BAAA
SOMETHING THERE?
...BUT YOU ALL'RE HEADED FOR THE PORT OF VRITANNIS? THEN YOU'D BEST BE CAREFUL.
NOT WANTIN' TO BE SEEN BY PEOPLE MUST MEAN YOU'VE GOT SOME REASON...
GIVE THAT UP AND STICK WITH ELF DIMENSION STYLE.
*MUMBLE
BAAA! BAAA!
I HEAR ARMIES FROM THE LANDS UNDER THE HOLY SEE KEEP GATHERIN'.
IT'S BECOMIN' THE MILITARY BASE FOR SEVERAL ALLIED COUNTRIES.
LOOKS MORE AND MORE LIKE A BIG WAR AGAINST THE KUSHAN'S GONNA START.


EVEN IF THE ALLIED FORCES DRIVE OUT THE KUSHAN, THE TERRITORY'LL BE CARVED UP REAL GOOD.
WITH THE KING DEAD AND HIS ONLY CHILD, THE PRINCESS, MISSIN', MIDLAND HAS NO REAL RULER.
IF IT GOES BADLY, THE KINGDOM ITSELF'LL DISAPPEAR. ANYHOW, IT'S NO CONCERN OF SHEPHERDS LIKE US.
DISAP- PEAR...
MIDLAND ...?
ARE YOU A MID- LANDER, SON?
WHAT A PITY.
NO...
I JUST TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THEIR HOSPITALITY SOME...
...A LONG TIME AGO.
......



AHH! OH, YEAH...
I FORGOT.
IF YOU'RE GOIN' THAT WAY, WATCH OUT.
'SPECIALLY 'ROUND THE MOUNTAIN PASS.
*FX: BAAA BAAA
*FX: BAAA BAAA
WHAT, OLD MAN?!
BANDITS OR SOMETHIN'?!
BETTER IF IT WERE.
BUT IT AIN'T HUMANS UP THERE.
IT'S TROLLS.

STOP

This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!



COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / MANGA / HORROR

BERSERK

KENTARO MIURA

23

ベルセルク

三浦建太郎

Desperate as Guts, the Black Swordsman, has been to reunite with his former captain and lover, the now-mad Casca, he's quickly learning that being together is as dangerous as being apart. What should be a simple journey to the safety of Puck's homeland proves to be a gauntlet of perils, as the Mark of Sacrifice each bears brings the fury of Hell down upon them, and Guts discovers that in his darkest moments he himself is the greatest danger to the woman he loves.

Created by Kentaro Miura, *Berserk* is a fiery manga apocalypse, an ominous omnibus of furious action, fearsome horror, and funereal humor that strikes a power chord in the hearts of its devoted followers and strikes down the rest like a scythe through wheat. Bring in the sheaves!

This collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format, as originally published.

DARK HORSE MANGA

FOR READERS 18+
FOR MATURE READERS